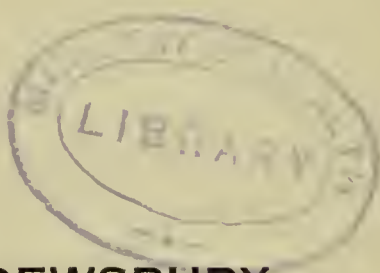


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COUNTY BOROUGH OF DEWSBURY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

FOR THE YEAR

1955

BY

The Medical Officer of Health

(T. W. ROBSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.)



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HEALTH COMMITTEE.

(as at 31st December, 1955).

Chairman : Alderman A. SUGDEN, J.P.
 Vice-Chairman THE MAYOR (Councillor F. W. Craven, J.P.).
 Alderman J. E. McDONALD Councillor C. HINCHLIFFE
 Alderman M. SCARGILL Councillor Mrs. L. DURKIN
 Alderman J. E. TOLSON, J.P. Councillor A. R. REED
 Councillor Mrs. M. FIELD

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.

(as at 31st December, 1955).

Chairman—Councillor F. FOX.
 Vice-Chairman—Councillor H. NUNNS.
 The Mayor (Councillor F. W. CRAVEN, J.P.) (*ex-officio*).
 Councillor Mrs. L. DURKIN Councillor W. WEIR
 Councillor K. W. FIRTH Councillor C. RIGG
 Councillor A. RAMSDEN Councillor E. HARRISON, J.P.
 Councillor J. W. JORDAN

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1955.

Medical Officer of Health—

T. W. ROBSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health—

M. M. MARKHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.T.M., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers of Health—

†MARY DOREEN FOX, M.B., Ch.B.
 NORAH A. HODGKINSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon

‡H. N. BURWELL, F.R.C.S.

Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon—

‡E. S. TAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S.

Senior Dental Officer—

J. R. TUXFORD, L.D.S.

Dental Officers—

*B. FRANCIS, L.D.S.
 *W. A. OLDROYD, L.D.S.
 *A. B. HALLIWELL, L.D.S. (from 17-1-55)
 *J. C. BIBBY, L.D.S. (from 4-2-55)
 *G. C. ROBSON, L.D.S. (from 6-7-55)

†Dr. Fox is an officer of the Hospital Management Committee : 49% of her salary is paid by the corporation on account of her work in the corporation maternity clinics.

Chief Sanitary Inspector—

H. HAWORTH, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.J.B., Cert. Meat Ins., Cert. Sanitary Science.

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector—

D. H. BRADBURY, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.J.B., Cert. Meat Inst.

‡With permission of the Leeds Regional Hospital Board.

*Part-time

District Sanitary Inspectors—

W. F. WELLER, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.J.B., Cert. Meat Inst., Cert. Smoke Inst.
 C. PARKER, Cert. S.I.J.B., Cert. Meat Inst.
 A. NUNN, Cert. S.I.J.B.
 J. D. CLAYTON, Cert. S.I.J.B.
 A. CLOUGH, Cert. S.I.J.B. (from 7-7-1955)

Superintendent Nursing Officer—

I. ALDERSON, S.R.N., S.R.F.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Eightlands Day Nursery—

Matron—J. WALSHAW, N.S.C.N.

Orchard School, Savile Town.

Supervisor—C. BYRNE, R.M.P.A., Dip.N.A.M.H.

Health Visitors—

K. M. FISHER, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
 J. BURTON, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (Resigned 20-8-55)
 B. HOLLIDAY, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
 I. HALLILEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.

Temporary Health Nurses—

*N. DORAN, S.R.N., S.C.M., Approved Health Visitor.
 K. E. NAYLOR, S.R.N., S.C.M., Approved Health Visitor
 A. C. SHEPLEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., Approved Health Visitor
 (Resigned 21-1-55)
 A. MILNER, S.R.N., S.C.M. (From 1-1-55)

Student Health Visitors—

B. FOX, S.R.N., S.C.M. (From 1-4-55)
 C. G. BUTLER, S.R.N., S.C.M. (From 20-6-55)
 P. M. HELLBERG, S.R.N., S.C.M. (From 26-9-55)

Physiotherapist—

*B. E. NAYLOR, M.C.S.P.

District Nurses—Home Nursing Service—

Mr. E. HUMPHRIES, S.R.N., Q.I.D.N.
 Mr. N. WRAITHMELL, S.R.N.
 L. GATES, S.R.N.
 D. BLACKBURN, S.R.N.
 *C. D. SMITH, S.E.A.N. (Full-time from 1-12-55)
 *W. THORNTON, S.R.N., Q.I.D.N.
 A. NAUGHTON, S.E.A.N.
 R. BLACKBURN, S.R.N.
 D. MILLER, S.R.N.

Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives—

M. CORRIN, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D., (Matron, Moorlands Maternity Home)

Municipal Midwives—

N. CROFT, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 M. HAMMERTON, S.C.M.
 F. K. WAIN, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 M. McCONNELL, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Resigned 1-12-55)

*Part-time.

Tuberculosis Care and After Care Visitor—

F. GLOAG, S.R.N., T.A. Cert.

V.D. Social Worker—

*G. E. DAVIE, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Certificate.

Authorised Officers and Mental Deficiency Visitors—

*H. ROBERTS.

*H. A. WILMAN.

*N. DORAN, S.R.N., S.R.F.N., S.C.M.

Mental Health Worker—

K. CHAFFER.

Borough Analyst—

*F. W. M. JAFFE, B.SC., F.I.C.

Chief Clerk—

H. TRANMER, D.P.A.

Clerical Staff—

L. PARKER, D.P.A.

Miss D. NODDINGS.

Mrs. E. SMALLWOOD.

Miss M. PARKER.

Mrs. D. MIDGLEY.

Miss P. HEALEY

Miss B. THOMPSON

Miss B. JACKSON

Miss E. DAVENPORT

Miss S. MACKERETH

Mrs. J. WOOD

Miss S. MORTON (From 28-3-55)

Miss M. BANCROFT (From 15-8-55)

*Part-time.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
DEWSBURY.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health services for Dewsbury for the year 1955.

The Registrar General estimated the civilian population of the town at mid-1955 at 53,150, an increase of 70 on the corresponding figure for 1954. The natural increase in the population of Dewsbury (that is the excess of live births over deaths) during the year was 160.

Live births registered were 867 composing 449 males and 418 females. Of this number 47 or 5·4% were illegitimate as compared with 43 or 4·7% in 1954. The birth rate for the year was 16·3 as compared with 17·2 for the previous year. The corrected live birth rate was 16·6 and the national figure was 15·0.

The Still-Birth Rate was 26·9 per 1,000 total births, a decrease on the previous year's figure of 31·8.

The death rate of 13·4 per 1,000 population was above the national rate of 11·7 but a decrease on the town's 1954 death rate of 13·7. The heaviest mortality was caused by the group including heart disease and other diseases of the circulatory system, which accounted for 269 deaths or 38% of the total of 707 deaths from all causes, and a death rate of 5·06 per 1,000 persons living. Cancer (all forms) was responsible for 97 deaths and a death rate of 1·82 per 1,000 persons living, and causing 13·6% of the deaths from all causes. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system was the cause of 4 deaths, giving a death rate of 0·07 per 1,000 living as against 0·15 in 1954.

For the fifth year in succession there were no maternal deaths.

Out of a total of 707 deaths, 485, *i.e.*, 68·6% were in persons over 65 years of age, and 161, *i.e.*, 22·8% were in persons between 45-65 years of age. It will thus be seen that 91·4% of all deaths were in persons over 45 years of age.

The Infant Death Rate, *i.e.*, the number of deaths of children under 1 year per 1,000, live births was 25·4. The national figure was 24·9.

The number of cases of infectious diseases (other than tuberculosis) which occurred in Dewsbury during 1955 was 1,490 as against 771 in 1954. Of this total approximately 78% were measles 9% whooping cough, 4% dysentery and 2% scarlet fever. There were no cases of diphtheria.

Tuberculosis.

With regard to Tuberculosis it is very pleasing to report that the number of deaths due to this disease was the lowest ever recorded in Dewsbury. Furthermore, information gleaned from a monthly bulletin of the Ministry of Health shows that of all the County Boroughs, Dewsbury had the lowest average annual notification during the three years 1952-1954. There was, however, in 1955 an increase in notifications over the previous year.

In general the mortality statistics for tuberculosis are decreasing year by year throughout the country, but the number of notifications of new cases, although falling a little, does not show a similar decline. It therefore appears that more emphasis than ever should be placed on prevention, *i.e.*, the control of the source of infection. This is by no means an easy task as much depends upon the ambulant cases of tuberculosis with positive sputums. They must be made fully aware of the harm that can be done by mixing with the general public and they must be prepared to take all the precautions and instructions given to them. At the same time the immunity of each individual against tuberculosis should be, if at all possible, kept at a high level, by means of B.C.G. vaccination, good nutrition and good housing conditions. In conclusion, it can be said that the fight against Tuberculosis is gradually being won, but there is yet much more to be done, particularly in the prevention of new cases.

Poliomyelitis.

There were 18 cases of ascertained Poliomyelitis, and of these 6 were non-Dewsbury residents, but because they were diagnosed in local hospitals they had, owing to new regulations, to be notified as Dewsbury cases. There were, in effect, 12 residents of Dewsbury who contracted poliomyelitis, 11 of these cases being of a paralytic nature and 1 non-paralytic. A recent survey of these Dewsbury cases shows that unfortunately one death occurred, one remains badly paralysed, one moderately incapacitated, whilst the remainder are almost completely recovered.

Infantile Mortality.

The Infant Mortality Rate of 25·4 for Dewsbury in 1955 was the second lowest ever recorded for the town, and it compares very favourably with the national figure of 24·9. It is particularly pleasing to record this figure for Dewsbury because in 1954 the rate was 44·9. Detailed investigation shows that a probable cause for the variation between the two years lies in the fact that of the premature children born in these years by far the greater number were of a very small birth weight (under 3 lbs.) in 1954 than in 1955, and there is no doubt that the greater the weight of a premature child the greater are its chances of survival.

Health Education.

Early in 1955 a course of four lectures on "The Positive Aspects of Mental Health" was arranged. The lecturers were of considerable prominence in the field of mental health and the acceptance rate of the invited persons was unusually good, the audience being approximately 200 at each session. The lectures were apparently enjoyed by all, so much so, that a further course was arranged for 1956. Dewsbury County Borough Council is to be congratulated because it is amongst the first few authorities to organise such courses.

Further details concerning this venture can be seen on page 65.

Problem Families.

During the year meetings of various social workers were arranged in order to discuss the best methods of dealing with such families. It is generally agreed that many of them present difficulties which are not easy to overcome, and results so far obtained are by no means encouraging. The Health Visitor, however, can do much to prevent early cases developing into established cases and it is on this aspect that much emphasis must be placed. More information on this subject can be found on page 27.

Conclusion.

Full statements regarding the various services appear in the respective sections and I believe it can be said they functioned efficiently and well. I trust the report will be of interest to all members of the Council.

May I take this opportunity to tender to the Chairman and the members of the Health Committee my sincere appreciation of the generous help and support so freely given throughout the year.

I also wish to thank the Town Clerk and other officers of the Council for their valuable co-operation and help, and lastly and by no means least my own staff, professional and clerical, for their conscientious work throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

T. W. ROBSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

**STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS
OF THE AREA**

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	6,720
Estimated civilian population (Mid. 1955)	...	...	...	...	...	53,150
Number of Inhabited houses at 31st December, 1955	...	...	...	...	...	18,328
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1956	...	...	...	...	...	£504,553
Estimated product of a penny rate 1955/56	...	...	...	...	...	£1,320

I am indebted to the Borough Treasurer (Mr. J. L. Dyson) for the financial statement below, showing the estimated cost of the health services for the year ending 31st March, 1956.

Local Health Services.

						Net Cost before Deduction of Grant
Section 22.	Care of Mothers and Young Children	...	...	...	...	£13,528
Section 23.	Midwives Services	...	...	...	...	£3,147
Section 24.	Health Visiting	...	...	...	...	£4,622
Section 25.	Home Nursing	...	...	...	...	£6,482
Section 26.	Vaccination and Immunisation	...	...	...	...	£1,034
Section 27.	Ambulance Service	...	...	...	...	£11,369
Section 28.	Prevention of Illness.	Care and After				
	Care	...	...	...	...	£3,357
Section 29.	Home Helps	...	...	...	...	£9,165
Section 51.	Mental Health Services	...	...	...	...	£2,129
	Occupation Centre	...	...	...	...	£3 332
Public Health Act, 1936—						
	Notification of Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	£100
	Central Council for Health Education	...	...	...	...	£22
Total						£58,287

Vital Statistics.

	1955			1954
	Male	Female	Total	Total
Number of Live Births :				
Legitimate	423	397	820	870
Illegitimate	26	21	47	43
TOTAL ...	449	418	867	913
Number of Still Births :				
Legitimate	16	8	24	25
Illegitimate	—	—	—	5
TOTAL ...	16	8	24	30
Total Number of Births, Live and Still :				
Legitimate	439	405	844	895
Illegitimate	26	21	47	48
TOTAL ...	465	426	891	943
Total Number of Deaths ...	369	338	707	720
Deaths (under 1 year) :				
Legitimate Infants ...	10	10	20	39
Illegitimate Infants ...	1	1	2	2
TOTAL ...	11	11	22	41
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age :				
Legitimate Infants ...	9	7	16	23
Illegitimate Infants ...	1	—	1	1
TOTAL ...	10	7	17	24

Area Comparability factors : Births 1.02

Deaths 1.01

Comparison of Vital Statistics, Dewsbury and England and Wales, 1955.

	Dewsbury 1955	England & Wales 1955	Dewsbury 1954
Rate per 1,000 population :			
Live Births	16.3	15.0	17.2
Corrected Live Birth Rate	16.6	—	17.5
Annual Death Rate per 1,000 population :			
All causes	13.43	11.7	13.69
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.07	0.13	0.15
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.00	0.02	0.02
Cancer	1.82	2.05	2.24
Pneumonia	0.47	Not available	0.36
Diphtheria	0.00		0.00
Influenza	0.00		0.00
Measles	0.00		0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.00		0.00
Whooping Cough	0.02	,,	0.00
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still-births)	26.93	23.1	31.81
Deaths under 1 year of age (per 1,000 live births)	25.4	24.9	44.9
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births :			
Maternal causes excluding abortion	0.00	0.54	0.00
Due to abortion	0.00	0.10	0.00

Population.

1931 Census—54,302.

1951 Census—53,487.

The Registrar General estimated the home population (all ages), at mid 1955 to be 53,150 an increase of 70 on the figure for 1954.

The natural increase of the population (excess of live births over deaths) was 160.

Year	Population	Total Births	Birth Rate	Birth Rate England and Wales	Total Deaths	Death Rate	Death Rate England and Wales	Dewsbury	England and Wales
1914	54,082	1293	23.9	23.8	860	15.9	14.0	113.7	105
1915	53,299	1135	20.98	21.9	913	17.12	15.7	116.3	110
1916	51,855	1104	19.5	20.9	791	15.2	14.4	94.2	91
1917	52,244	925	15.8	17.8	739	14.1	14.4	97.0	96
1918	47,101	919	17.4	17.7	956	20.25	17.6	112.0	97
1919	52,969	1056	19.1	18.5	930	17.5	13.8	110.7	89
1920	55,980	1271	23.07	25.4	784	14.2	12.4	110.1	80
1921	54,164	1197	22.08	22.4	810	14.9	12.1	121.9	83
1922	55,100	1004	18.2	20.6	745	13.32	12.9	107.5	77
1923	55,424	942	17.05	19.7	803	14.0	11.6	82.8	69
1924	55,121	1022	17.8	18.8	845	14.3	12.2	89.04	75
1925	54,790	946	17.2	18.3	823	15.0	12.2	105.7	75
1926	53,630	910	16.96	17.8	729	13.59	11.6	89.0	70
1927	53,560	870	16.2	16.7	811	15.1	12.3	63.2	69
1928	53,130	860	16.18	16.7	740	13.9	11.7	66.2	65
1929	53,020	813	15.33	16.3	936	17.6	13.4	93.4	74
1930	53,020	872	16.4	16.3	697	13.1	11.4	64.2	60
1931	54,410	743	13.65	15.8	804	14.78	12.3	76.7	66
1932	53,870	795	14.7	15.3	819	15.2	12.0	88.0	65
1933	53,600	762	14.2	14.4	826	15.4	12.3	91.8	64
1934	53,450	734	13.7	14.8	675	12.6	11.8	57.2	59
1935	53,400	761	14.3	14.7	691	12.9	11.7	52.6	57
1936	53,230	788	14.8	14.8	826	15.5	12.1	68.5	59
1937	53,050	805	15.17	14.9	785	14.8	12.4	62.1	58
1938	52,860	753	14.24	15.1	704	13.3	11.6	51.2	53
1939	52,600	763	14.42	15.0	700	13.3	12.1	49.7	50
1940	50,630	754	14.89	14.6	791	15.6	14.3	51.3	55
1941	50,330	745	14.7	14.2	710	14.11	12.9	62.9	59
1942	48,880	848	17.3	15.8	694	14.2	11.6	70.7	49
1943	47,510	891	18.75	16.5	757	15.9	12.1	50.5	49
1944	46,910	979	20.87	17.6	662	14.11	11.9	36.7	46
1945	46,650	848	18.18	16.1	727	15.58	11.4	48.35	46
1946	49,670	1012	20.37	19.1	702	14.13	11.5	41.5	43
1947	50,880	1217	23.91	20.5	751	14.76	12.0	45.19	41
1948	52,550	1015	19.32	17.9	692	13.17	10.8	40.39	34
1949	52,740	1011	19.17	16.7	767	14.54	11.7	30.66	32
1950	53,140	940	17.7	15.8	713	13.4	11.6	24.47	30
1951	52,990	950	17.93	15.5	765	14.44	12.5	35.79	29.6
1952	52,910	897	16.95	15.3	727	13.74	11.3	32.33	27.6
1953	52,990	890	16.79	15.5	727	13.72	11.4	39.32	28.6
1954	53,080	913	17.2	15.2	720	13.69	11.3	44.9	25.5
1955	53,150	867	16.3	15.0	707	13.43	11.7	25.4	24.9

The following Table gives an Analysis of the Causes of Death :
 Causes of Death 1955 and comparison with 1954 figures.
 Registrar-General's figures.

Classifica- tion No.		M.	F.	Total 1955	Total 1954
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	4	—	4	8
2	Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—	1
3	Syphilitic diseases	1	—	1	2
4	Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	—	1	1	—
6	Meningococcal infections	—	—	—	1
7	Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—
8	Measles	—	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	2	2	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	10	8	18	19
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	10	1	11	19
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	12	12	14
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	9	9	7
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neo- plasms	31	16	47	60
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1	1	2
16	Diabetes	2	2	4	2
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	68	62	130	113
18	Coronary disease, angina	52	40	92	107
19	Hypertension with heart disease	14	16	30	17
20	Other heart diseases	35	60	95	109
21	Other circulatory diseases	23	29	52	47
22	Influenza	—	—	—	—
23	Pneumonia	15	10	25	19
24	Bronchitis	32	25	57	64
25	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	2	—	2	5
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	2	5	2
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	4	1	5	5
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	5	4	9	9
29	Hyperplasia of prostate... ..	6	—	6	4
30	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion ...	—	—	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	3	5	8	8
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases...	28	23	51	53
33	Motor vehicle accidents... ..	4	—	4	3
34	All other accidents	11	5	16	18
35	Suicide	6	4	10	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—
	Total	369	338	707	720

Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life.

Registrar General's Figures 1955.

	Under 1		1—4		5—14		15—24		25—44		45—64		65—74		75 and Over		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...									1		1		1		1		4
Tuberculosis, other ...																	
Syphilitic diseases ...									1								1
Diphtheria ...																	
Whooping Cough ...				1													
Meningococcal infections ...																	
Acute poliomyelitis ...																	
Measles ...																	
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...											1		1				
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...										2	4	1	5	2	1	3	10
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...									1		5		4	1			10
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...										2		6		1		3	
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...										1		4		2		2	
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...										1	9	6	17	6	5	3	31
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...						1											
Diabetes ...													1		1	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system									1		11	9	26	16	30	37	68
Coronary disease, angina ...											16	6	20	14	16	20	52
Hypertension with heart disease											4	3	9	6	1	7	14
Other heart diseases ...							1	1	6	8	11	9	9	17	33	35	
Other circulatory diseases ...									1	2	2	7	4	14	22	23	
Influenza ...																	
Pneumonia ...	1	1									4	2	6	4	4	3	15
Bronchitis ...			1						1		14	1	10	5	6	19	32
Other respiratory diseases ...									1				1				2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum											2	1	1			1	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2		1						1			1					4
Nephritis and nephrosis ...											2	3	3			1	5
Hyperplasia of prostate ...											1		3		2		6
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion ...																	
Congenital malformations ...	1	4			1			1							1		3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	6	5			1		1		2		4	6	9	4	5	8	28
Motor vehicle accidents ...					1						2		1				4
All other accidents ...	1	1		1			1		3		2	1	2	1	2	1	11
Suicide ...										1	4	2		1	2		6
Homicide and operations of war																	
Total ...	11	11	2	2	3	1	2	2	13	14	95	66	135	77	108	105	369

Birth Rate.

In 1955, the number of live births was 867, 46 less than in 1954, giving a birth rate of 16·3 per 1,000 population compared with the previous year's rate of 17·2.

The corrected birth rate (Registrar Generals area comparability factor 1.02) was 16.6 and the birth rate for England and Wales was 15.0 per 1,000 population for 1955.

The birth rates and maternal mortality rates for Dewsbury since 1941 are as follows :—

		<i>Birth Rate</i>		<i>Maternal Mortality Rate</i>
1941	...	14·7	...	6·31
1942	...	17·3	...	1·14
1943	...	18·7	...	1·07
1944	...	20·8	...	1·8
1945	...	18·1	...	Nil
1946	...	20·4	...	1·90
1947	...	23·9	...	2·41
1948	...	19·3	...	Nil
1949	...	19·2	...	Nil
1950	...	17·7	...	2·07
1951	...	17·93	...	Nil
1952	...	16·95	...	Nil
1953	...	16·79	...	Nil
1954	...	17·2	...	Nil
1955	...	16·3	...	Nil

Death Rate.

In 1955 the number of deaths was 707, 13 less than the previous year and the death rate was 13·43 per 1,000 population compared with 13·69 in 1954.

The death rate for England and Wales in 1955 was 11·7 per 1,000 population.

Deaths Occurring in Hospitals and Institutions.

The number of deaths which occurred in hospitals or institutions during the year was 284 or 40% of the total number of deaths.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year — 1955.

Disease	Under 1 Day		1 Day— 1 week		1 week— 4 weeks		4 weeks— 3 Mths.		3—6 Mths.		6—9 Mths.		9—12 Mths.		Totals	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Other defined and Ill-defined diseases	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3
Congenital Malformations	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	4
Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prematurity	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Accidents	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Totals	3	2	4	5	3	—	—	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	11	11

Total number of deaths under 28 days old was 17 or 77% of all infant deaths.

Neonatal death rate = 19 per 1,000 live births.

Maternal Deaths.

There were no deaths ascribed to maternity during 1955.

The following table gives information relating to maternal deaths during the period 1941 to 1955.

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
No. of Births—Live and Still	798	879	935	1012	875	1054	1244	1039	1034	968	969	924	910	943	891
No. of Maternal Deaths ...	5	1	1	2	—	2	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Maternal Death Rate ...	6.27	1.14	1.07	1.8	—	1.9	2.41	—	—	2.07	—	—	—	—	—
Maternal Death Rate—England and Wales	2.76	2.01	2.29	1.93	1.79	1.43	1.17	1.02	0.98	0.86	0.79	0.72	0.76	0.69	0.64

Premature Births.

There were 74 live premature births notified during 1955 representing 8.5% of the live births, 39 were males and 35 females. They included 7 pairs of twins, and 2 children who were twins to infants who were not premature on birth weight.

(a) The total number of premature babies (*i.e.*, 5½lbs. weight or less at birth) who were born :

(i) at home	...	...	...	...	...	7
(ii) in hospital	...	...	...	...	...	67
(iii) in private nursing home	...	...	...	...	...	—

(b) Born at home and :

(i) nursed entirely at home	...	...	...	...	7
(ii) who died during the first 24 hours	...	...	...	...	—
(iii) who died between 1 and 7 days	...	...	...	...	—
(iv) survived 28 days	...	...	...	...	7

(c) The number of those born in hospital :

(i) who died during the first 24 hours	...	...	...	6
(ii) who died between 1 and 7 days	...	...	...	3
(iii) survived 28 days	...	...	...	58

Premature Infants 1944-1955.

Year	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
No. of premature infants born	27	26	49	91	64	69	51	56	57	57	64
No. of Live births	979	848	1012	1217	1015	1011	940	950	897	890	913
Premature Infants as a percentage of the live births	2.8%	3.1%	4.8%	7.5%	6.3%	6.8%	5.4%	5.9%	6.4%	6.4%	7.0%

The following table shews that of the 74 premature infants born during 1955, 10 (13.5%) are known to have died before reaching their first birthday, 22 are known to have survived to one year of age, 42 are alive but less than one year of age at the time of writing.

Premature Live Births, 1955.
Table as at 1st May, 1956—Showing Information Relating to Weight and Survival

Number of Premature Infants born during 1955			Birth Weight	Deaths of Premature Infants			Premature Infants Alive (1/5/56)			
Male	Female	Total		Male	Female	Total	Under 1 year		Over 1 year	
1	—	1	2 lbs. 3 ozs. or less	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
1	1	2	Over 2 lbs. 3 ozs. up to and including 3 lbs. 4 ozs.	1	1	2	—	—	—	—
17	9	26	Over 3 lbs. 4 ozs. up to and including 4 lbs. 6 ozs.	3	2	5	12	5	2	2
7	6	13	Over 4 lbs. 6 ozs. up to and including 4 lbs. 15 ozs.	1	1	2	3	3	3	2
13	19	32	Over 4 lbs. 15 ozs. up to and including 5 lbs. 8 ozs.	—	—	—	9	10	4	9
39	35	74	Totals	6	4	10	24	18	9	13

Medical Examinations.

During 1955 a total of 187 Medical Examinations were carried out by the Medical Officers of the Department. 159 of these were for Corporation employees who were either entering the service or were due to pay superannuation contributions after the qualifying period. 5 examinations were done for outside authorities and 23 candidates for teachers' training colleges were medically examined prior to their being accepted by the colleges.

Marriages.

Mr. B. C. Amies, M.B.E., Superintendent Registrar, has kindly furnished the following information :—

The number of marriage ceremonies during the year 1955 was 450 :—

(a) In the Church of England	...	...	...	216
(b) In other chapels and churches	...	...	...	91
(c) At the Register Office	...	...	...	143

Marriages 1945-1955.

Year.				
1945	...	...	...	521
1946	...	...	...	570
1947	...	...	...	571
1948	...	...	...	551
1949	...	...	...	499
1950	...	...	...	482
1951	...	...	...	487
1952	...	...	...	441
1953	...	...	...	455
1954	...	...	...	440
1955	...	...	...	450

Occupations.

The chief occupations in Dewsbury are in the woollen trade and its associated industries rags and shoddy, coal mining, distributive trades, dyeing and cleaning. Female labour is very important in the heavy woollen industry of which Dewsbury is the principal centre and there is a high percentage of married women workers employed.

Employment.

I am indebted to the Manager of the Dewsbury Employment Exchange for the following information :—

The employment position in Dewsbury during the past year has been very good. Industry in Dewsbury has enjoyed full employment and there is every indication that this satisfactory position will continue in 1956. Unemployment has been less than one per cent. which was below the average for the West Riding and the Country as a whole. Unemployment has been confined mainly to the disabled and older workers. Even among the disabled, unemployment has been at a very low level and were mostly those who were hardly fit for employment of any kind. Even so, during the past year 90 disabled men, 21 women and 5 juveniles were placed in employment by the Disablement Resettlement Officer. Close co-operation has been maintained with the local hospitals and Chest Clinic Consultants, Doctors and Almoners have all co-operated in achieving this satisfactory result.

Registered Unemployed Persons, 1955.

	January		March		June		September		December	
	W.U.	T.S.	W.U.	T.S.	W.U.	T.S.	W.U.	T.S.	W.U.	T.S.
Males	123	13	115	4	115	31	90	10	114	24
Females ...	33	4	46	4	51	24	41	9	38	11
Total ...	156	17	161	8	166	55	131	19	152	35

w.u.—Wholly Unemployed.

t.s.—Temporarily stopped (included in W.U. figures).

Number of Persons Placed in Employment.

		Men	Women	Boys	Girls
January ...	...	110	29	23	52
March ...	...	177	67	7	4
June ...	...	130	64	6	9
September	...	142	70	11	10
December	...	124	57	8	9
Total for year ...		683	287	55	84

Housing.

For housing Reports statistics see the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

The following statistical information has been kindly supplied by Mr. J. Fogden, Borough Architect and Buildings Surveyor :—

The number of houses completed in the Borough during the year by private enterprise was 109 and the number completed by the Corporation was 333.

Houses built by :
Local Authority Private Enterprise

1946	...	...	111	31
1947	...	...	161	34
1948	...	...	149	14
1949	...	...	94	13
1950	...	...	172	13
1951	...	...	246	21
1952	...	...	232	25
1953	...	...	230	29
1954	...	...	305	51
1955	...	...	333	109

Of the houses completed by the Corporation in 1955, 66 were three bedroom traditional type brick houses, 170 two-bedroom traditional type brick houses, 8 one-bedroom bungalows, 68 one-bedroom flats and 20 two-bedroom flats. In addition, one house was completed for occupation by an employee of the Education Committee.

Improved solid fuel heating appliances, approved by the Ministry, have been installed in 1805 Corporation houses completed since the war to the 31st December, 1955.

I am informed by Mr. J. B. Walker, Housing Manager, that 139 of the new houses were let to families who were re-housed under the Corporation's slum clearance programme and that a further 82 houses were re-let to families so housed.

Blind Persons.

Mr. B. C. Amies, Chief Officer of Welfare Services has kindly supplied the following information :—

The number of persons on the blind Register on 31st December, 1955, was 135, as shown in the following table :—

Ages			Partially Blind			Totally Blind		
			Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Under 5	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	...	...	1	1	2	—	—	—
20—30	...	...	3	1	4	—	2	2
30—40	...	...	3	1	4	1	—	1
40—50	...	...	7	6	13	1	—	1
50—60	...	...	5	10	15	2	—	2
60—70	...	...	11	14	25	4	3	7
Over 70	...	...	24	33	57	1	1	2
Totals	...	...	54	66	120	9	6	15

The following information is given respecting the admission of persons to the register of the blind or the register of the partially sighted during 1955.

Forms B.D. 8 were received in respect of 15 new cases for admission to the blind register and 8 new cases to the register of the partially sighted. The following table indicates the cause of the disability.

		Cause of Disability			
		Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Forms B.D.8 recommends :—					
(a)	No treatment	—	1	—	7
(b)	Treatment (medical, surgical or optical)	9	2	—	4
<hr/>					
(ii) Number of cases at 1(b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment					
		1	—	—	4

EPILEPTICS AND SPASTICS.

The number of known cases of epilepsy and cerebral palsy in Dewsbury are :—

- (a) Epileptics 10 Adults and 18 Children.
- (b) Spastics 2 Adults and 17 Children.

(a) Of the 10 adult epileptics, 3 are in accommodation provided by the authority under Part III of the National Assistance Act, 4 in epileptic colonies and 3 at home but not requiring admission. One of these cases is visited by a teacher from the League of Friendship. Of the 18 children, 3 are attending the Occupation Centre for Mental Defectives, 1 is attending the Park Special School for Educationally Sub-normal children, 3 are under school age and are at home and the remaining 11 are attending primary or secondary schools in Dewsbury as they are not in need of special school education.

(b) Of the 17 spastic children, 3 are attending the Moorlands Open Air Special School, 1 is away at a residential special school, 1 is at the Park Special School, 1 mentally defective child of 15 is at home awaiting institutional accommodation, 1 is at the Occupation Centre, 1 is having tuition at home, 3 are awaiting admission to residential special schools and the remainder are attending either primary or secondary schools in the County Borough. The two adults are aged 18 and 19 and both are attending the Occupation Centre for mental defectives.

REPORT OF THE N.S.P.C.C. INSPECTOR.

The following information respecting the work of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children has been kindly supplied by Inspector Jenkins.

Number of cases dealt with in Dewsbury, 1955 79

Classified as follows :—

Neglect	40
Ill-treatment	2
Abandoned	1
Advice sought	36
<hr/>	
Total	79
	<hr/>

These cases involved 257 children in the following age groups :—

0—2	2—5	5—15	15—17
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
57	52	141	7

The sources of information respecting the 102 cases were :—

General Public	39
Police	8
School Officials	6
Other officials	22
Inspector N.S.P.C.C.	4
<hr/>	
Total	79
	<hr/>

In this period 19 children were taken into care by the Local Authority as a result of legal action by the N.C.P.C.C. resulting in 9 prosecutions in Court and 9 cases before the Juvenile Court. Compared with my last report there is a decrease in the number of cases dealt with and the increase in the number of prosecutions might well account for this, coupled with the fact that the Society's Local Office has changed its address.

The steady increase in "advice sought" cases is most gratifying. It indicates that the general public are realising that the Society is here to help wherever possible.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH CIRCULAR 27/54.

Health of Children.

Prevention of break up of families.

Early in 1955 a meeting of welfare workers which included Health Visitors, N.S.P.C.C. Officer, Children's Officer, Welfare Officers, Probation Officer, etc., was held under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health, and the question of "Problem Families" was discussed. In brief it was agreed that :—

- (a) A register of problem families should be maintained.
- (b) The Health Visitor would play an important part in the early ascertainment and treatment of such families.
- (c) The Medical Officer of Health would call meetings of such social workers as he thought necessary to study certain cases and decide what line of action to take.
- (d) Avoidance of visits by too many social workers was desirable.

In addition to the above, the Health Committee gave permission for two specially selected home helps to work with the mother, to teach her housecraft, etc.

As a result of representations by the Medical Officer of Health to the Housing Committee, or for some other reason, four families were rehoused, and all these families with the help of the Health Visitor and other social workers have shown some improvement which may, or may not be of a lasting nature.

At the end of 1955 there were 16 cases on the register of problem families, and the Health Visitors visit regularly, advise and teach general household management and infant care. In general she is received cheerfully but although the members of the problem families often make attempts to improve, the low mentality of most of them does not make for sustained improvement and so constant supervision is necessary.

In many of the cases extreme difficulty is experienced in trying to effect any real and lasting improvement, and the following information will give some idea why this is so :—

- (a) In at least eight families, either one or both of the parents are of subnormal mentality.
- (b) In four families the fathers are near-criminal types and prison habitués.
- (c) Two cases had to be taken to court for neglect and in both cases the children were removed from parental care and one prison sentence was imposed.
- (d) In one case a baby was removed to the care of the local authority as neither parent was found mentally capable of being in charge of it.
- (e) Quite a number of the families are incorrigibly dirty, or heavy smokers, or drunkards, or with the head of the household in irregular, if any, employment.
- (f) School children of such families are usually found to be verminous and bad attenders.
- (g) Help in the form of cast-off, but serviceable clothing is redistributed to needy cases, but in a number of them once the clothes are soiled, they are sold to a rag collector rather than be washed.

There are of course a large number of families where as a result of illness or infirmity of a parent, family difficulties arise, and in such cases the Health Visitor can play an invaluable part, not only by giving advice but by arranging, in collaboration with the family doctor, for home help, home nursing, nursing appliances, etc., to tide them over what is probably a temporary difficulty.

The undeniable truth that "Problem Families beget Problem Families" makes all the labour and time spent on them, expensive though it may be, undoubtedly well worth while, although it often appears in many cases that one is fighting a losing battle, particularly in the well established case.

Finally, the Health Visitor during her many visits can often discern the first sign of a breakup in family life and the beginnings of the creation of a problem family, and it is in these incipient cases that her help is so important in endeavouring, by making use of the various services, to prevent any further deterioration. Such preventive work is of the highest importance to the community as in addition to causing much unhappiness and social upset the cost of problem families to the general public is recognised as being out of all proportion to their numbers.

**GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH
SERVICES FOR THE AREA**

Public Health Officers.

Particulars of the Public Health Officers, together with information as to their qualifications, are set out on pages 4, 5 and 6.

Laboratory Facilities.

All specimens are sent to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Wakefield (Director, Dr. L. A. Little), and during 1955 a total of 1,080 specimens were dealt with, mainly investigations in connection with sonne dysentery and food poisoning.

Promotion of Cleanliness.

Cases of uncleanness are dealt with at the cleansing station attached to the Municipal Buildings, Halifax Road, Dewsbury.

During 1955, there were no cases of head lice and no cases of scabies amongst pre-school children, and no cases of scabies amongst adults.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

During the year 5 pre-school children suffering from orthopaedic defects were seen by the Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at the School Clinic.

Ophthalmic Treatment.

During the year 5 pre-school children with defective vision were seen by the Consultant Ophthalmologist at the School Clinic.

Nursing Homes.

There are no nursing homes registered or known to exist in the County Borough area.

Treatment Centres and Clinics at end of 1955.

The following is a list of Treatment Centres and Clinics in the Borough :—

Centre or Clinic	Place	Time
Child Welfare Clinics	Westborough Methodist Schoolroom, Green Lane	Monday, 2 p.m.
	Whitley Methodist Schoolroom	First Monday in month at 2 p.m.
	Heaton Lodge, Earlsheaton	Tuesdays at 2 p.m.
	Chidswell Methodist Chapel, Shaw Cross	Alternate Tuesdays at 2 p.m.
	Health Dept., Municipal Buildings, Halifax Road	Wednesday 2 p.m. Every afternoon 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. for Welfare Foods only and Saturday 10-30 to 11-30 a.m. for all infants foods.
Ante-Natal Clinics	Thornhill Council Offices	Thursday 2 p.m.
	Ravensthorpe Council Offices	Friday 2 p.m.
	Moorlands Maternity Home	Monday 10-30 a.m. Monday 2 p.m.
	Thornhill Council Offices	Wed. 10-30 a.m.
	Moorlands Maternity Home	Wednesday 2 p.m. Thurs. 2 p.m.
Post-Natal Clinic	Heaton Lodge, Earlsheaton	Tuesday 10-30 a.m.
	Moorlands Maternity Home	Thursday 10-30 a.m. By appointment alternate Fridays 2 p.m.
*Consultant Clinic	Moorlands Maternity Home	Mon., 2 p.m.
Relaxation Classes	Moorlands Maternity Home	Tuesday 2 p.m.
Dental Clinic (Maternity Cases)	Central Dental Clinic, 40, Leeds Road	By appointment
*Orthopaedic Clinic	School Clinic, Halifax Road	By appointment 10 a.m. 2nd Mon. in month.
*Ophthalmic Clinic	School Clinic, Halifax Road	By appointment 9 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. Thursday Tuesday 1.30 p.m.
Diphtheria Immunisation	School Clinic, Halifax Road	Saturday 9-30 to 11-30 a.m.
	All Child Welfare Clinics	Clinic day.
*Chest Clinic	Dewsbury General Hospital (Returned Cases)	Tues., 9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. ; 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Wed. & Thursday.
	(New Cases)	Monday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
		Wed. 10 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.
*Venereal Diseases	Dewsbury General Hospital	Daily. Medical Officer attends :— Monday 1-30 to 4 p.m. Thursday 10 to 12 noon Friday 5 to 7 p.m.

*Attended by Medical Officers of the Regional Hospital Board.

National Assistance Act 1948, Section 47.

This section empowers the authority on certification by the Medical Officer of Health to require the removal to hospital or other suitable premises subject to approval by a court, of a person who

- (a) is suffering from grave chronic disease, or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, is living in insanitary conditions, and
- (b) is unable to devote to himself-herself, and is not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

Although several cases were visited by the Medical Officer of Health with the object of using this section, it was found that personal persuasion was sufficient to effect the removal.

Nursery and Child Minders Regulations Act, 1948.

No applications were received during the year for registration under this Act.

National Insurance Act, 1946.

New Claims to Sickness Benefit received at the Dewsbury Office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance in 1955 in respect of Dewsbury residents.

Week ended	No. of Claims	Week ended	No. of Claims
4.1.55	293	5.7.55	119
11.1.55	242	12.7.55	110
18.1.55	241	19.7.55	111
25.1.55	258	26.7.55	91
1.2.55	219	2.8.55	47
8.2.55	208	9.8.55	114
15.2.55	183	16.8.55	103
22.2.55	158	23.8.55	94
1.3.55	194	30.8.55	107
8.3.55	162	6.9.55	107
15.3.55	126	13.9.55	125
22.3.55	145	20.9.55	135
29.3.55	160	27.9.55	131
5.4.55	157	4.10.55	156
12.4.55	90	11.10.55	163
19.4.55	128	18.10.55	148
26.4.55	144	25.10.55	160
3.5.55	137	1.11.55	120
10.5.55	124	8.11.55	150
17.5.55	123	15.11.55	173
24.5.55	120	22.11.55	164
31.5.55	88	29.11.55	153
7.6.55	123	6.12.55	148
14.6.55	129	13.12.55	158
21.6.55	98	20.12.55	125
28.6.55	122	3.1.56	343
		(2 weeks)	

**SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE
AREA**

WATER.

Mr. D. E. Strachan, Water Engineer and Manager, has kindly supplied the following details of the public water supply in respect of the year ended 31st December, 1955.

Dewsbury County Borough receives water in bulk from three sources, namely :—

1. The works of the Dewsbury and Heckmondwike Waterworks Board.
2. The Corporation of Bradford.
3. The Corporation of Halifax.

Dewsbury Corporation is not responsible for production and treatment of Halifax and Bradford supplies, but is indirectly responsible in that respect for the Board water, being the larger partner in the Dewsbury and Heckmondwike Waterworks Board.

In 1955, the proportions of water from each source were :—

1. Dewsbury and Heckmondwike Waterworks Board	70%
2. Bradford Corporation	18%
3. Halifax Corporation	12%

There has been no change in the source of supply or method of distribution. New water mains have been laid to the Corporation housing sites at Overthorpe Road and Field Lane, Ravensthorpe, and to private sites in various parts of the town.

No new constructional work has been done.

All houses in the area, except for a few isolated cottages, are supplied from public water mains direct to the houses, with no standpipe supplies.

The rate of consumption per person in 1955 was 24·6 gallons per day for domestic purposes including small trade users, and 32·5 gallons per day for measured trade supplies.

The chemical analyses of the waters supplied to the consumer do not show the water to have any liability to plumbo-solvent action.

No contamination has taken place nor has any been suspected.

The Dewsbury and Heckmondwike joint supply is treated by the addition of slaked lime and chlorine ; the second and third supplies are treated by their respective authorities and details of treatment are not available.

The use of hosepipes for car washing, swilling, etc., was forbidden from 3rd October, 1955 to 1st January, 1956, owing to severe drought and low water level in the impounding reservoirs.

Public Water Supply — Bacteriological Analysis.

	SUPPLY SIDE									
	AFTER-TREATMENT									
	COLLECTION Pre-Treatment Reservoirs	Reservoirs					Depots			House- hold
	Broad- stone Reserv.	Whitley Reserv. Inlet	Whitley Reserv. Outlet	Stain- cliffe Gauge Basin	Gaw- thorpe Reserv. •	Squirrel Hall Reserv. •	Edge Top Pump House •	R'thpe. Meter House •	Batley Carr Depot •	House Taps
Presumptive B. Coli. per 100 ml.										
0 (Highly Satisfactory)	7	53	37	44	45	52	52	51	52	9
1—2 (Satisfactory)	1		5	5	3	1	1	1	1	
3—10 (Suspicious in Chlorinated Supply)	3		8	4	5			1		
Greater than 10 (Unsatisfactory in Chlorinated Supply)	1		1	1						
TOTALS	12	53	51	54	53	53	53	53	53	9
										432

- Analyses made by Dewsbury Analytical Services.
Remainder were analysed by Public Health Laboratory Service, Wakefield.
- The taking of house tap samples is arranged so that all the sources of bulk supply are investigated.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Mr. E. H. Staynes, Sewage Works Manager, has kindly supplied the following information :—

There are three sewage purification works serving the County Borough, situated at Mitchell Laithes, Ravensthorpe and Smithy Brook dealing with daily dry weather flows of 6,350,000, 1,000,000 and 25,000 gallons respectively. The works at Mitchell Laithes also deals with the sewage from two neighbouring authorities, namely Batley Municipal Borough and Mirfield Urban District Council, and these authorities contribute approximately one-half of the flow delivered there.

It is anticipated that the Smithy Brook Works will become redundant early in Summer, 1956, by which time a new sewer, connecting up to Mitchell Laithes, will be completed. The present works was brought into operation, after reconstruction, in April, 1913, and deals with sewage from the Whitley Briestfield and Thornhill Edge districts.

The work of extending the sewage purification plant at Mitchell Laithes was commenced at the beginning of 1954, and includes construction of additional primary and secondary sedimentation tanks, reconstruction of biological filters, extensions to sewage pumping plant and provision of pumping plant for recirculation of effluent. This work will be completed by the end of March, 1956, and the extended works are expected to be capable of giving treatment to the requirements of the Yorkshire Ouse River Board.

The Ravensthorpe and Smithy Brook works have functioned in a satisfactory manner throughout the year.

Mr. J. S. G. Holmes, Borough Engineer and Surveyor has supplied the following information with regard to sewerage :—

The only extension to the sewerage system completed during 1955 consisted in the laying of the sewers required for the Field Lane housing site at Ravensthorpe.

During the latter part of the year a contract was let, and work commenced, on the construction of a new 18-ins. dia. sewer to connect the sewer now discharging to the Smithy Brook Disposal Works with the Mitchell Laithes system. This work is now well advanced, and very shortly it will be possible to abandon the Smithy Brook works. The contract sum for this work was £20,784.

Work was continued throughout the year on extending the Mitchell Laithes Works for the proper treatment of sewage now received from Batley and Mirfield, and it is anticipated that these extensions will be completed about the end of March, 1956.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The information in this section has been kindly contributed by Mr. M. Lovett, Chief Inspector, Yorkshire Ouse River Board, Leeds :—

The Yorkshire Ouse River Board is the authority responsible for dealing with matters relating to pollution prevention, land drainage and fishery interests in the River Calder watershed.

The River Calder and its tributaries receive along their lengths, effluents from an almost unbroken chain of sewage works and manufactories. The problem of preventing pollution is complicated by the small normal flow in the river in relation to the volume of effluents discharged. As measured at Kirkthorpe Weir, Wakefield, the normal flow in the river is about 95 million gallons per day, but due to the prolonged dry weather, and authorised reductions in the volumes of compensation water, for several weeks of the year the flow was as low as 80 million gallons per day. At least one-third of the normal flow of water in the river can be accounted for by effluents from sewage works. In addition, treated trade effluents amounting to several millions of gallons per day are discharged to the river and its tributaries, so that normally the amount of used water in the river is often at least 50 per cent. of the total flow. At times during the past year the amount has been as high as 60 per cent. If it were not for the compensation water from reservoirs of water undertakings, there would have been little clean dilution water reaching the river during the late summer and early autumn.

The Board are always willing to advise manufacturers regarding the treatment of trade effluent, but it is their view that the most efficient and economical means of dealing with such effluents is by discharging them, where practicable, to the public sewers, for treatment at the sewage works of the local authorities. The Dewsbury Corporation continue to co-operate with the Board in furthering this policy, and almost all the trade effluent produced within the County Borough, along with much of that from adjoining authorities, now receives treatment at the Corporation's sewage works.

Due to the drought conditions in the latter part of the year, the rise in the river temperature, brought about by the discharge of heated condensing water from electricity generating stations and other industrial premises, has been more pronounced, despite the bringing into operation of a second cooling tower at the Thornhill Generating Station, which is within the County Borough area. The use of this new tower has further increased the unavoidable loss of river water, through evaporation in the cooling process. A start was made during the year on the construction of a further generating station at Elland, some ten miles upstream of Dewsbury.

Following the first cold spells of the autumn, there was a period when quantities of sludge, which had accumulated on the river bed, came to the surface and passed down the river.

There have been improvements, during the year, in the condition of a number of tributary streams, where they enter the Dewsbury County Borough area. A discharge of strong ochre water to a tributary of the Spen River ceased during the summer months. Due to blockages on the two sewers of a neighbouring authority, two stormwater overflows were in continual operation for a number of weeks, causing gross pollution of the Dewsbury (Batley) Beck until the trouble was located, since when only a slight discoloration has spoiled the appearance of the Beck. Following the construction and bringing into use of two large slurry tanks at a colliery within the County Borough area, the condition of the Pildacre Beck has shown a marked improvement and is now satisfactory.

The river at Brighouse and upstream continues to support coarse fish and it is believed that they are spawning naturally. Towards the end of the year it was reported that an angler had caught a trout in this reach of the river. Further improvement in the middle reaches of the Calder will result when the extensions to the Huddersfield County Borough Sewage Works, now making good progress, are completed. Several other major schemes for improved treatment of sewage and industrial effluents in the Calder Valley are contemplated. Work has begun on a scheme of sewerage, whereby the sewage and trade effluents of the Coln Valley Urban District will be conveyed for treatment at the Huddersfield sewage works, and steady progress is being made.

Good progress has been made on the first stage of the extensions to the Corporation's Mitchell Laithes sewage works, and it is hoped that this stage will be completed during April, 1956.

It is regrettable that nothing has yet been done within the County Borough regarding the removal of solid refuse from the Dewsbury (Batley) Beck.

PUBLIC BATHS.

Mr. F. Whitham, Baths Superintendent has supplied the following information :—

The Public Baths are situated in Old Westgate and consist of two swimming baths, slipper baths, remedial baths and laundry.

Swimming Baths.

There are two swimming baths each holding 52,500 gallons of water.

The water is under constant treatment by means of a Filtration and Purification plant which is capable of dealing with 33,000 gallons per hour thus giving a turnover period of approximately $3\frac{1}{4}$ hours.

The water is circulated by means of a centrifugal pump as follows :—

It is drawn from the deep end of the bath to the filter plant where it receives a dose of Sulphate of Alumina to coagulate all the dirt and organic matter in suspension, the water then passes through a strainer to the filters where it passes through a bed of sand which holds all the dirt, the clear filtered water is then collected from the bottom of the filter into the delivery pipe through a calorifier which heats the water to the required temperature and back into the bath.

In addition to filtration the water is purified by means of the latest type of Chlorinator which introduces a regulated dose of liquid chlorine which can be varied according to the demand.

In conjunction with the chlorinator an automatic Chemical solution feeder is operated, this feeds a regulated dose of a solution of Carbonate of Soda to the water in order to maintain a correct Ph. value.

Colourmetric tests are carried out three times a day to ensure that a chlorine residual of 1.5 parts per million and a Ph. value of 7.4 is maintained, this ensures that no discomfort is experienced by the bathers at the same time ensuring that no pathogenic organisms can exist in the water.

Periodic samples are taken by the Sanitary Department for Chemical analyses and Bacteriological examination.

In 1955, due to the exceptionally good summer a record number of attendances was achieved, 157,589 swimming, slipper and remedial bathers were recorded.

A period is granted to the members of the Infantile Paralysis Fellowship free and instruction swimming is given with very good results.

Slipper Baths.

There are 18 baths provided, 12 for men and six for women. These are very well attended, chiefly on Fridays and Saturdays.

Old Age Pensioners are allowed free baths during the earlier part of the week.

Remedial Baths.

Russian, Turkish, Vapour and Foam baths are provided.

These are given without Medical prescription and are very good in the prevention of Rheumatism and its allied complaints, though it is recommended that the advice of a Doctor be obtained before partaking of these baths.

Laundry.

In addition to the washing of the towels provided at the baths laundry work is carried out for other Corporation Departments and for the schools.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL — 1955.

	4 weeks 30.1.55	4 weeks 27.2.55	4 weeks 27.3.55	5 weeks 1.5.55	4 weeks 29.5.55	5 weeks 3.7.55	8 weeks 28.8.55	5 weeks 2.10.55	4 weeks 30.10.55	4 weeks 27.11.55	5 weeks 1.1.56
REFUSE COLLECTION :											
Ashpits Emptied ...	274	226	262	412	360	378	694	395	307	271	261
Dustbins Emptied ...	84198	72505	92300	111714	93109	106661	148744	117642	93637	93410	96366
Loads of Refuse Collected ...	718	600	808	863	721	803	1267	864	714	740	844
Total Weight Carried (Tons)	1278	1103	1367	1752	1422	1359	1909	1502	1199	1310	1474
Total Cost (Labour & Trans.)	£1444	£1181	£1674	£1835	£1547	£1896	£2780	£1961	£1544	£1534	£1717
REFUSE DISPOSAL :											
Refuse Destroyed at Destructors (Tons) ...	7	8	7	8	7	9	16	11	9	8	9
Refuse Taken to Tip (Tons)	1270	1096	1359	1743	1415	1351	1892	1491	1190	1302	1464
MATERIALS SALVAGED :											
Total Weight (Tons) ...	87	54	78	80	70	68	142	74	79	74	79
Total Value ...	£684	£365	£544	£632	£555	£516	£1155	£569	£667	£564	£617
STREET CLEANSING :											
Gullies Emptied ...	756	7	1252	2368	1713	2524	2569	1020	1691	687	881
Loads of Sweepings Collected	63	74	157	231	106	115	113	74	121	84	98

The details relating to the collection and disposal of refuse in the table above, have been supplied by Mr. L. Banham, the Council's Transport Manager and Cleansing Superintendent.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT

1946

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

(National Health Service Act, 1946—Section 22).

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

There are three ante-natal clinics in the Borough administered by the Corporation, these are situated at Moorlands Maternity Home, Thornhill Council Offices, and Heaton Lodge, Earlsheaton.

Staincliffe General Hospital, Dewsbury, have a maternity wing and Dewsbury mothers are admitted on recommendation from the Medical Officer of Health. Staincliffe administer their own ante-natal and post-natal clinics.

The Corporation ante-natal clinics provide ante-natal care for all mothers, Dewsbury residents and non-residents, confined in Moorlands Maternity Home and for Dewsbury mothers having domiciliary confinements.

The following table shows the attendance at the Corporation ante-natal clinics during 1955 :—

	<i>First Attendances</i>	<i>Subsequent Attendances</i>	<i>Total Attd.</i>
Dewsbury mothers ...	680	4154	4834
Non-residents ...	234	1640	1874
Totals ...	914	5794	6708

Routine blood tests are taken from every patient, these are sent to Leeds Blood Transfusion Centre for Group and Rhesus tests, and to Public Health Laboratory Service, Wakefield, for Wasserman and Kahn tests.

During 1955 the number of tests carried out were as follows :—

Dewsbury patients :	Rh tests	...	...	...	...	635
Number of Rh tests on husbands of Dewsbury patients		...				53

Wasserman and Kahn Tests.

Number of Wasserman and Kahn tests 462

Haemoglobin Findings.

Haemoglobin estimations are taken as routine from every patient and during the year 617 tests were taken. These examinations were carried out at the laboratory of the Dewsbury General Hospital.

Pregnancy Tests.

There were no pregnancy tests made in 1955.

POST-NATAL CLINIC.

The Post-Natal Clinic administered by the Corporation is held at Moorlands Maternity Home and as in the case of the ante-natal clinics, it is attended by non-residents confined in Moorlands Maternity Home as well as by Dewsbury Mothers.

The following table gives details of attendances during 1955 :—

		<i>First Attendances</i>	<i>Subsequent Attendances</i>	<i>Total Attd.</i>
Dewsbury mothers	...	316	8	324
Non-residents	...	173	5	178
Total	...	489	13	502

Ante-Natal Relaxation Classes.

These classes are held at the Moorlands Maternity Home, Dewsbury. 1,496 attendances were made during the year by 426 women.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS—

STAINCLIFFE GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The number of attendances by Dewsbury mothers at the ante-natal and post-natal clinics at Staincliffe during 1955 were as follows :—

Ante-Natal :	First Visits	...	138
	Subsequent Visits		665
Post-Natal :	First Visits	...	76
	Subsequent Visits		9

INFANT WELFARE CLINICS.

The table on the opposite page gives details of the attendances at each of the Corporation's Infant Welfare Clinics.

The number of infants attending for the first time under one year of age was 76·4% of the number of infants born during the year (live births). The clinics are well patronised and during the year 1,529 children attended them.

The amount of milk foods of all types sold at these centres during the year was 41,036 lbs. compared with 38,390 lbs. in 1954.

Vitamin Supplements.

Orange Juice, Cod Liver Oil and Vitamin Tablets are issued at the Child Welfare Centres at 5d. per bottle for Orange Juice and free of charge in the case of the other supplements.

The Health Committee are responsible for the distribution of Welfare Foods in Dewsbury and the following table shows the issues of these foods during the year compared with the previous year when the Committee took over the functions of the Food Office for these issues on 28th June, 1954.

	Tins of National Dried Milk	Bottles of		Packets of Vitamin Tablets
		Orange Juice	Cod Liver Oil	
Jan. to Dec., 1955	17,494	29,041	4,853	2,696
Jan. to June, 1954	2,721	3,572	1,000	193
July to Dec., 1954	13,502	12,453	2,432	1,063
Totals 1954	16,223	16,025	3,432	1,256

ATTENDANCES AT INFANT WELFARE CLINICS.

Clinic	Number of children who were under 1 at first attendance	Number of children who attended during the year and who were born during			Number of attendances made during year by children who were			Cases seen by Medical Officer
		1955	1954	1953—50	Under 1 year	1 but under 2	2 but under 5	
Dewsbury ...	194	184	142	79	2467	170	164	521
Thornhill ...	112	114	88	66	1505	176	170	305
Ravensthorpe ...	108	102	101	66	1684	179	234	376
Earlsheaton ...	150	137	123	71	1890	262	235	330
Shaw Cross ...	39	33	27	12	393	63	15	95
Whitley ...	4	8	5	—	41	12	—	—
Westborough ...	70	67	56	48	801	110	103	183
Totals ...	677	645	542	342	8781	972	921	1810

DENTAL SERVICE.

Report by the Senior Dental Officer—J. R. Tuxford.

Dental Treatment continues to be available to expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children as in previous years, and of those requiring treatment, the majority are referred from the Authority's ante- and post-natal clinics. Patients who do not attend the clinics are referred by their own medical advisers, and some just seem to attend because they have heard from neighbours or acquaintances that treatment is available.

There has been an all round increase in the amount of treatment provided during 1955, due to the fact that additional sessions have been available for treatment, there having been an increase in staff, and also I think that expectant and nursing mothers appreciate that treatment is free. I have also discovered that quite a number of young mothers were patients at the clinic when they were at school, and seem to prefer to return, having had little or no dental treatment in the intervening period.

The necessity of regular treatment does not seem to occur to the majority of mothers, and without the spur of being referred from an ante- or post-natal clinic, or the experience of pain, I doubt whether treatment would be sought until full dentures were required.

After being discharged dentally fit, in spite of attempts to impress upon them the necessity of regular dental attention, and to seek treatment under the General Dental Service, if they are not eligible for treatment under the Authority's scheme (*i.e.*, when the child is over one year old), I know very well that most mothers will have had no treatment until the next child comes along, or until they have to seek it through having pain.

Pre-school children usually attend by reason of pain, or some very obvious defect, and access is gained to quite a number when they come to the clinic with mother when she is attending for treatment, or are brought when mother brings along a child of school age for treatment.

All treatment provided at the clinic for expectant and nursing mothers is free, including the provision of dentures, up to the child being one year of age. Dentures are made by an outside laboratory as staff is not sufficient to warrant the employment of a full-time dental mechanic. Facilities for X-ray examinations are available where necessary.

Numbers provided with dental care.

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	272	260	271*	263
Children under five	216	200	197	196

*11 cases examined in 1954 are included in this figure as they were either treated, or treatment was completed, in 1955.

Forms of dental treatment provided.

	Extractions	General Anaesthetics	Fillings	Scalings or Scaling and Gum Treatment	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Inlays and Crowns	Radio-graphy	Dentures Provided	
								Complete	Partial
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	1160	150	470	127	—	1	20	149	29
Children under five	272	133	2	—	65	—	—	—	—

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE DENTAL SERVICE, 1955.—STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

	Expectant and Nursing Mothers	Pre-School Children
Actually inspected ...	272	216
Selected for treatment ...	260	200
Appointments made ...	1442	200
Appointments kept ...	1309	197
Casual attendances ...	31	65
Total attendances for treatment ...	1338	262
Number of fillings ...	470	2
Number of teeth filled ...	389	2
Number of Extractions ...	1160	272
Number of general anaesthetics ...	150	133
Number of teeth extracted under general anaesthetics ...	1019	270
Other operations to teeth and gums ...	347	3
Other operations denture work ...	623	—
Number of dentures fitted ...	178	—
Number of patients supplied with dentures ...	1 1	—
Number of silver nitrates ...	—	65
Number of Crowns and Inlays ...	1	—
Number of X-ray examinations ...	20	—
Number of patients made dentally fit ...	263	196

DAY NURSERIES.

The Council's decision to close the Ravensthorpe Day Nursery in April was based on economic grounds brought to the fore by the declining attendances consequent on the introduction of new scales of charges which were designed to be more in line with present day trends of incomes and costs. The Eightlands Day Nursery has been kept open throughout the year although there has also been a very rapid decline in the numbers attending there, but by reductions in staff and by reducing the number of rooms in use it has been decided that, in view of the necessity to make provision for the limited number of priority cases, this nursery must be kept open.

The situation is being kept under very close review by the Health Committee and at the time of writing the numbers of children attending is showing a marked increase.

The highest average daily attendance at Eightlands Day Nursery was 24 in February and the lowest was nine for the months of October, November and December. Except for the two weeks annual holiday period, the nursery has remained open throughout the year and has not been affected by any outbreaks of infectious or other diseases. As in previous years, the meals are cooked on the premises and the children receive two-thirds of a pint of milk and cod liver oil and orange juice.

At the end of the year the nursing staff at the nursery numbered six and was comprised as follows :—

Matron
Deputy Matron
Staff Nurse
3 Nursery Assistants

At the time of writing this has been reduced to Matron and two Nursery Assistants.

Daily Minders.

There were no daily minders receiving fees from the authority under Section 22 of the National Health Service Act 1946, during the year.

Mother and Baby Homes.

There are no Mother and Baby Homes provided by the authority, but approval was given for two expectant mothers to be sent to a home, payment being made by the authority.

Illegitimate Children.

The authority do not employ themselves, or in combination with another local health authority, a Social Worker for the purpose of Circular 2866.

The mothers of illegitimate children are visited by the Health Visitors, who offer advice on the care of, and the services available for such children.

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY.

National Health Service Act, 1946, Section 23.

The Authority employ four Domiciliary Midwives who are recognised as teacher midwives and they are under the supervision of the Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives who is also the Matron of Moorlands Hall Maternity Home. In December, 1955, one of the midwives resigned and at the time of writing, her successor has just been appointed. All four midwives are qualified to administer Gas and Air and Pethidine, and each midwife has her own equipment for these purposes. The following table gives a summary of the work carried out by the Domiciliary Midwives during the year :—

No. of cases brought forward undelivered 1st Jan., 1955	62
Number of cases booked during year	223
Total	285
No. of cases delivered during year, excluding abortions, miscarriages, stillbirths and emergency cases	190
No. of miscarriages	7
Number of Stillbirths	1
Number transferred to hospital undelivered	30
Number of cases who left district before delivery...	2
Number of cases undelivered on 31st Dec., 1955	55
Total	285
Number of Medical Aid forms sent	11
Number of emergency unbooked deliveries	7
Number of cases where gas and air analgesia given	166
Number of cases where pethidine was administered	70

In addition, the midwives attended 528 maternity cases who were discharged from Moorlands Maternity and Staincliffe General Hospitals before the 14th day.

During the year the Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives attended a refresher course at the Midwives Teachers' Course, Newcastle-on-Tyne from the 7th to 13th September, 1955, and one of the Domiciliary Midwives attended a post graduate course at the University of Sheffield, from the 27th March to 2nd April, 1955.

HOSPITAL MIDWIFERY.

During the year notification of intention to practise within the area of the authority was given by 20 midwives employed by the Hospital Management Committee, as Institutional Midwives, at either Moorlands Hall Maternity Hospital or Staincliffe General Hospital. During the year 688 live births were notified through these two hospitals and 23 stillbirths, and the percentage of domiciliary confinements in relation to hospital confinements remains fairly constant year by year at 20% to 22%.

HEALTH VISITING.

The organisation of the Health Visiting staff remains the same as in previous years, supervised by the Superintendent Nursing Officer who is also in charge of the Home Nursing and Home Help Services. The Health Visiting staff numbered six at the end of the year consisting of three fully qualified, two approved Health Visitors and one Assistant Health Visitor. In addition three students were taking the training course at the University of Leeds. The Health Visitors are not employed solely on health visiting duties being employed part-time as such and part-time as School Nurses. During 1955, a total of 16,216 visits were made, details of which are given in the table overleaf.

SUMMARY OF VISITS BY HEALTH VISITORS, 1955.

Number of children under 5 years of age visited during the year	Expectant mothers		Children under 1 year of age		Children age 1 and under 2 years	Children age 2 but under 5 years	Other cases	Total number of visits made in year	Total number of families or households visited in year
	First visits	Total visits	First visits	Total visits	Total visits	Total visits			
4267	167	360	847	4473	2474	5281	3628	16216	3495

HOME NURSING.

(National Health Service Act 1946—Section 25).

The Corporation are entirely responsible for the home nursing service and at the end of 1955 the staff was as follows :—

Superintendent Nursing Officer	1 (part-time)
Queen's Nurses	2 (1 male full-time 1 female part-time)
State Registered Nurses	5 (1 male & 4 females full-time)
State Enrolled Assistant Nurses	2 (females, full-time)

Transport is provided by the Authority in the form of two motor cars and two "Lambretta" motor cycles, two of the nurses have their own pedal cycles for which they are paid an allowance.

The following tables show the number of cases nursed during the year :—

Type of Case	No. of Patients	No. of Visits
Anaemia	57	1801
Diabetes	53	7357
Cancer	62	3017
Rheumatism & Arthritis	25	992
Bronchitis & Pneumonia	110	945
Uraemia	9	148
Prolapse Uterus	24	175
Cardiac & Hypertension	102	2360
Cerebral Thrombosis, &c.	74	1783
Coronary Disease	8	147
Tuberculosis	41	826
Disseminated sclerosis	5	638
General Attention, Enemas, Dressings, Burns, Scalds, Investigations, Senility, &c.	323	3245
Other Cases	55	844
Totals	948	24278

	Children over 1 year and under 16 years		Children under 1 year	
	No. of Patients	Visits	No. of Patients	Visits
Otitis Media	7	32	—	—
Pneumonia and Bronchitis... ..	3	19	—	—
Circumcision	10	67	21	97
Glandular	4	30	—	—
Tuberculosis	4	43	—	—
Others	22	145	2	27
Totals	50	336	23	124

Patients who were 65 or over at the first visit during the year numbered 511 and 14,708 visits were made to them.

Cases on books at 1/1/1955	...	174
New patients, 1955	... ..	847
Discharged :		
Convalescent	... ..	556
To Hospital	... ..	129
Died	... ..	139
Remaining on books 31/12/55	...	197

The number of special visits made during the year for the purpose of giving injections, etc., to sick people in their homes is as follows :—

Cytamen & Anahaemin	...	671
Penicillin group	...	1865
Insulin	...	7298
Mersalyl	...	1153
Streptomycin...	...	947
Ansolysen	...	89
Testosterone	...	213
Others...	...	80
Monthly douche & change of pessary		171
Enema Saponis	...	264
Total Special Visits	... ..	<u>12487</u>

	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
Total Cases	1021	1029	1027	871	805	761
Total Visits	24738	27263	23743	20792	17762	18117

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

(National Health Service Act 1946—Section 26)

Immunisation.

The number of children immunised during the year was 579 ; of these 437 were between 0 and 4 years, and 142 between 5 and 15 years, whilst the number aged less than 1 was 329 representing only 39% of the number of babies born in the previous year.

It is estimated that the number of children in the Borough immunised at the end of 1955 was 47·2% of those aged 0 to 4 years and 91·6% of those between 5 and 15 years.

The number of immunisations carried out since 1935 when immunisation against diphtheria was first practised in Dewsbury are as follows :—

1935	...	77
1936	...	10
1937	...	76
1938	...	26
1939	...	19
1940	...	1680
1941	...	1865
1942	...	1350
1943	...	1675
1944	...	751
1945	...	615
1946	...	526
1947	...	899
1948	...	758
1949	...	673
1950	...	624
1951	...	586
1952	...	763
1953	...	652
1954	...	634
1955	...	579

These 579 immunisations include 405 children who have received combined A.P.T. and Whooping Cough vaccine (Glaxo) in three doses of 1 c.c. at monthly intervals. Private doctors immunised 13 of the children against diphtheria and 85 against diphtheria and whooping cough (combined prophylactic).

In addition, during the year 561 children received one single boosting dose ; 519 of these children were between 5 and 15 years and 42 were under 5 years.

Since 1951 there has not been a single notified case of diphtheria and this fact is justification for the ever present campaign for diphtheria immunisation.

Vaccination.

The following are the details of vaccination against smallpox during the year :—

Under 1	1—4	5—14	15 & Over	Total
275	17	11	62	365

The number of infants being vaccinated is far too small and does not confer any degree of protection upon the community in general, this trend is observable throughout the country and it is one which is causing a great deal of concern. The following table shows the position in Dewsbury during the last few years :

	Under 1	1—4	5—14	15 & over	Total
1954	224	24	8	30	286
1953	339	283	945	637	2204
1952	176	25	7	20	228
1951	102	21	3	69	195
1950	62	15	16	20	113
1949	19	24	4	7	54

It will be remembered that the comparatively high figure for 1953 was due to the 'scare' which was caused by the notification of several cases of smallpox in the surrounding areas.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

(National Health Service Act, 1946—Section 27).

The total number of vehicles at the end of the year was 4 Ambulances, 1 Sitting Case Ambulance and 2 Sitting Case Cars. The Sitting Case Ambulance is a new vehicle having been purchased in June, 1955, and has a capacity of up to eight patients. This has enabled more patients to be carried and is part of the explanation in the table below of the reduced number of journeys and an increased number of patients compared with the previous year, when the vehicles were 4 Ambulances and 3 Sitting Case Cars.

The personnel employed numbered 14 and were under the immediate direction of Mr. L. Banham, the Council's Transport Manager.

		Total No. of Journeys	No. of Accident and other Emergency Calls	Total No. of Patients carried	Total Mileage
Ambulances	...	3758	416	10293	38633
Cars	...	4274	244	9546	45155
TOTALS	1955	8032	660	19839	83788
TOTALS	1954	8112	692	17802	82008

It will be noticed that there was an increase of 2037 in the number of patients carried as compared with the previous year, and an increase of 1,780 miles on the years mileage.

The comparative figures for mileage for the years since 1949 are :—

	<i>Ambulances</i>	<i>Cars</i>	<i>Total</i>
1949	29905	58604	88509
1950	30860	48849	79709
1951	24178	46764	70942
1952	20914	48701	69615
1953	23944	52264	76208
1954	32348	49660	82008
1955	38633	45155	83788

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE.

(National Health Service Act 1946—Section 28).

A. TUBERCULOSIS

Tuberculosis Visitor

The Tuberculosis Visitor is responsible for the care and after-care of tuberculosis patients. Though the Regional Board have the responsibility of clinical care of the tuberculosis patients and control on behalf of the Ministry of tuberculosis sanatoria, dispensaries and mass miniature radiography, the domiciliary medico-social care of the patients and the families is a duty of the Local Health Authority.

The work of the Tuberculosis Visitor is set out below :—

Home Visiting.

Visits to new cases	...	...	...	...	3
Visits to patients under domiciliary treatment	...	...	...	...	811
Visits to homes of patients in Sanatoria	...	...	...	...	74
Visits to contacts	...	...	...	...	377
Unsuccessful visits	...	...	...	...	75
Total	...	...	...	...	1340

Occupational Therapy is done by patients in their own homes under the supervision of the Visitor, *i.e.*, hand loom weaving, lamp shade making, marquetry handicraft, embroidery, rug making, etc. The materials are supplied through the Health Department.

In addition, the Visitor has attended twice weekly at the Authority's B.C.G. Vaccination clinic for 13 year old children since its commencement in September, 1955.

Provision of Free Milk.

Number of patients supplied with milk during the year	53
Number of pints of milk supplied during the year	36 559

PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Tuberculin Testing and B.C.G. Vaccination of Dewsbury School Children born during 1942.

Dewsbury Corporation having approved in principle the Tuberculin Testing and Vaccination, subject to parental consent, of all children between the ages of 13 and 14 years in accordance with the M.O.H. Memo 324/BCG, the scheme was put into operation in 1955.

Letters of explanation were sent to Head Teachers of schools concerned, and the total number of children born between January 1st and December 31st, 1942, was ascertained. Parents of all such children were then sent explanatory letters and consent forms, the latter to be returned to the Health Department via the schools.

Sessions commenced on 16th September, 1955, and the routine adopted was, a preliminary Tuberculin Test of a strength 1/1000 intradermally in the forearm, and given on a Friday. The results were read the following Tuesday and positive reactors were eliminated as naturally protected and not requiring vaccination.

Negative reactors were given a further stronger dose of Tuberculin 1/100 on the same day and the results read on the Friday following.

Positive reactors were again eliminated as not requiring vaccination, and negative reactors were then vaccinated with B.C.G. intradermally over the site of the insertion of the deltoid muscle.

Such vaccinations were inspected at intervals of one month, and again at 8-10 weeks, and a final conversion test of 1/1000 old tuberculin was given again intradermally in the forearm in order to judge the efficacy of the vaccination.

Any consent forms from parents of children already under the observation of the Chest Clinic as known contacts were of course eliminated from the start, and this fact accounts for some apparent discrepancies in the statistical report in the total number of consent forms received and the number of children tested. Testing and vaccination of this 1942 group were carried on into 1956.

Our initial sessions were small, and we felt it was advisable to give an initial shot of Old Tuberculin 1/1000 instead of 1/100 to eliminate severe Old Tuberculin reactions in strongly positive children. Of necessity some children through illness and other causes missed readings of tests and vaccination. They will be dealt with early in 1956 when the B.C.G. vaccination for the 1942 group will be completed, and a further session arranged for the autumn term for the 1943 group.

B.C.G. Vaccination.

16th September to 31st December, 1955.

Total number of children born between 1/1/42 and 31/12/42	...	...	...	...	...	706
Total number consent forms received	...	...	...	...	...	437
Percentage Acceptance	...	...	...	...	...	62%
Total positive Mantoux not vaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	155
Total negative Mantoux	...	...	...	...	...	233
Total number vaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	225
Total number of conversions to date	...	...	...	...	...	20
Total number vaccinated not yet tested for conversion	...	...	...	...	...	205
Total number consent forms received neither Vaccination or Mantoux (Already in care of Chest Clinic as contacts)	...	...	...	...	...	10
Total number of consents received Mantoux only to date	...	...	...	...	...	165
Total Mantoux not read	...	...	...	(Absentees)	...	2

MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT SURVEY, 1955.

The Leeds Mass Radiography Unit carried out a survey in the Municipal Buildings, Halifax Road, Dewsbury, from the 4th March to the 21st March, 1955.

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number of persons examined by 35 m.m. film	1,373	1,470	2,843
Groups Examined :			
General Public	388	592	980
Hospital Management Committee			
No. 11	38	70	108
West Riding County Council ...	7	14	21
West Riding Constabulary ...	6	—	6
Dewsbury Corporation	156	216	372
M. Oldroyd & Co. Ltd.	46	75	121
J. Ellis & Co.	72	44	116
J. Austin & Co.	62	17	79
Ashworth Ross & Co.	62	4	66
Mark Day Ltd.	35	33	68
Yorkshire Electric Transformer Co. Ltd.	93	5	98
J. France & Co. Ltd.	37	31	68
Carpet Trades Ltd.	26	17	43
Foxsons Mills Ltd.	46	110	156
Silvers Ltd.	13	22	35
Wormalds & Walker Ltd.	242	211	453
J. & J. Horsfield Ltd.	17	—	17
General Practitioners nominees	23	9	32
Miscellaneous small groups ...	4	—	4
	<u>1,373</u>	<u>1,470</u>	<u>2,843</u>

Recalls :

Fifty persons were recalled for further examination by large film, and 17 persons were clinically examined by the Medical Director of the Unit.

Results of Survey.**Cases of Tuberculosis :**

Referred to Chest Clinic for further investigation :

Presumed active	2
Presumed inactive	7
Inactive, referred to own Doctor	2
Inactive, no further action required	5

Other Abnormalities :

Referred to Chest Clinic for further investigation	8*
Referred to own Doctor	1*
No further action required	8*

***Details of Other Abnormalities :**

Emphysema	...	...	...	...	...	1
Chronic Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bronchitis and Emphysema	...	...	...	...	...	1
Interstitial Fibrosis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Old Empyema	...	...	...	...	...	1
Mitral disease	...	...	...	...	...	3
						<hr/>
						9
						<hr/>

(B) ILLNESS GENERALLY.**Convalescent Care.**

During 1955, 19 cases were afforded convalescent care, on the recommendation of their own doctors.

Loan of Nursing Equipment

The equipment is loaned free of charge. A deposit is payable when the equipment is collected, this is returnable if the article is returned in good condition. Loans of various items totalled 372 during the year against 345 in 1954.

Items Loaned :

Bed Pans	...	...	91	Urinals	...	...	46
Rubber Sheets...	...	...	92	Wheel Chairs	...	...	8
Air Rings	...	...	51	Bed Cages	...	...	5
Bed Rests	...	...	40	Beds	...	...	3
Bed Table	...	...	1	Feeding Cups	...	...	5
Fire-guard	...	...	1	Hot Water Bottles	...	...	3
Rubber Mattresses	...	...	12	Cots	...	...	4
Cot Mattresses...	...	...	4	Pillows	...	...	6
				<hr/>			
				TOTAL	...	...	372
				<hr/>			

Health Education.

Full use was made of the advisory and information services of the Central Council for Health Education. All clinics display posters on health topics which are systematically changed.

Talks were given by members of the Health Department to various organisations on Health Topics and Home Accidents and in addition reference should be made to the course of lectures in Mental Health, see page 65.

V.D. Social Work.

The Council joins with the West Riding County Council in providing the services of a V.D. Social Worker who is centred at Dewsbury General Hospital Special Treatment Centre.

Details of the work carried out by the social worker are set out below :—

No. of cases followed up as defaulters	...	...	61
of the 61 cases followed up, 47 attended the treatment centre.			
13 failed to attend and 5 died.			
No. of cases traced as contacts	...	...	14
No. of miscellaneous visits made by the Social Visitor including visits to police, probation officer, W.V.S., etc.	...	...	127
Interviews with hospital doctors, attendances at clinics and weekly conferences with the Consultant Venereologist totalled	...	...	116
The total visits for all purposes including the above, was	...	...	456

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

The Superintendent Nursing Officer visits every applicant for the service in their own homes and assesses the need. She also pays regular visits to people who are having the help over a period of time, and reviews every case on its merits. The problem of meeting all the calls made on the service during the year continued to be very difficult.

The demand for the service was again very heavy, and as the percentage of old people increases the demands made on the service will correspondingly increase. These cases, as the following figures show, form the bulk of the demand on the service.

During the year the following cases were attended :—

Maternity	...	...	52
Tuberculosis	...	...	4
Chronic sick, aged and infirm	...	...	247
Others...	...	...	22
Total	...	...	325

The following table shows the number of staff and the hours worked during the year compared with 1954 :—

	1954		1955	
	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time
Staff at 1st January	17	14	20	11
„ 31st December	20	11	28	11
Number of hours worked	22404	26695	27186	22536

Uniform overalls are provided for the domestic helps and household equipment is available on loan where necessary.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

(National Health Service Act 1946—Section 51).

The Mental Health Sub-Committee is comprised of all members of the Health Committee and meetings are held monthly. No duties are delegated to voluntary organisations.

Care of Mental Defectives.

At the end of 1955, there were 71 mental defectives from Dewsbury in Institutions, 42 were males and 29 females (plus 2 females and 1 male "on licence leave").

The defectives were housed as follows :—

	Males	Females
St. Catherine's Institution, Doncaster	15	20
Meanwood Park Hospital, Leeds	—	1
Oulton Hall, Leeds	8	—
Castleburg Hospital, Settle	2	—
Grenoside Institution, Sheffield	7	—
Rampton State Institution	1	3
Whixley Colony, York	3	—
Aycliffe Hospital, Darlington	1	—
Monkton Hall, Jarrow	1	—
Winestead Colony, Withernsea	1	—
Westwood Institution, Bradford	1	3
St. Raphael, The Butts, Brentford	—	1
Calderstones Hospital, Whalley	1	—
Claypenny Hospital, Easingwold	1	—
Hatfield Hall, Nr. Wakefield	—	1
	42	29

At the end of the year 3 males were awaiting vacancies in institutions.

Guardianship.

There were 8 mental defectives under guardianship—5 males and 3 females.

Statutory Supervision.

There were 57 mental defectives under statutory supervision, 38 males and 19 females, and of these 25 were under school leaving age.

Education Act 1944, Section 57 and Education Act (Miscellaneous Provisions) 1948, Section 8.

Cases notified under Section 57(3)	1 male	1 female.
Cases notified under Section 57(5)	1 male.	

Authorised Officers' Visits to Mentally Defective Persons.

	Men	Women	Children under 16	
			Male	Female
Statutory Supervision ...	67	28	75	48
Guardianship ...	20	16	—	—
Licence Leave ...	10	—	4	—
On behalf of Institutions ...	26	18	5	4
Others ...	5	8	—	—
	128	70	84	52

Mentally Ill Persons.

The following table shows the number of cases in mental hospitals at 31st December, 1955 :—

<i>Name of Hospital</i>	<i>Certified</i>		<i>Voluntary</i>	
	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>
Stanley Royd Hospital, Wakefield ...	21	3	4	6
Storthes Hall Mental Hospital, Kirkburton ...	34	60	8	8
Burntwood, Staffs. ...	—	1	—	—
	55	64	12	14

Admissions and discharges to and from mental hospitals during the whole year are shown below :—

				Dewsbury Cases	Outside Cases
Admissions :					
Males :	Certified ...	...	...	4	2
	Voluntary ...	...	...	11	—
	Sec. 20 ...	...	...	8	—
Females :	Certified ...	...	...	10	1
	Voluntary ...	...	...	27	1
	Sec. 20 ...	...	...	6	4
				66	8
Discharges :					
Males :	Certified ...	...	...	11	4
	Voluntary ...	...	...	14	—
	Sec. 20 ...	...	...	—	—
Females :	Certified ...	...	...	13	2
	Voluntary ...	...	...	36	1
	Sec. 21A ...	...	...	1	—
				75	7

The above discharges include 29 deaths (12 males and 17 females).

Work of the Duly Authorised Officers.

In addition to their statutory duties under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts they are responsible for the supervision of mental defectives and this includes supervision of, and making reports on, mental defectives out on licence from institutions.

Mentally Ill—Visits

	Male	Female
Visits in connection with certified cases ...	23	38
Visits in connection with cases admitted voluntarily	15	32
Visits to cases in which action was taken under Sec. 20 L.A. 1890	19	24
Visits made but no action taken	15	19
TOTAL VISITS	72	113
Cases removed to Mental Hospital out of office hours	12	15

Mental Health Worker.

During the past year, the Mental Health Worker has, as before, worked in a part-time capacity, being also employed as Social Worker at the Education Committee's Child Guidance Centre and, by arrangement with the Hospital Management Committee, working one session per week at the Psychiatric Out-patient Clinic at the Dewsbury General Hospital.

It has been felt for some time that apart from undertaking individual case work, it is a proper function of a Local Health Authority Mental Health Service to undertake mental health education in a more general way over a wider field. Traditionally, prevention has been the main function of the Public Health Service and health education is accepted as being a very important part of this but little has been attempted in the field of mental health. The main difficulty in the way of putting into effect such education is the one of presentation. With no simple issue to present, such as is the case in diphtheria immunisation for example, and considering the possibility that a wrong emphasis might well encourage a morbid interest and defeat the object of such education, this difficulty is a formidable one. In the sphere of physical health, there is, for example, no danger that publicity regarding immunisation might result in an increase in the incidence of diphtheria. Mental hygiene cannot however be presented in such a direct way without entailing such risks.

It was with these considerations in mind that the matter was approached, and it was thought that the method most likely to be effective was to present the positive aspects of mental health in a series of lectures to groups of people having a professional interest rather than to the public at large. It was thought that in this way it might be possible to clear away some misconceptions and gain at least a measure of acceptance of the basic principles of mental hygiene. It was also hoped that these ideas might in time find expression in the day to day work of those who attended.

Such a series of lectures was organised under the general heading of "The Positive Aspects of Mental Health," and held during the months of January, February, and March. Circulars outlining the course were addressed to about nine hundred people in the area who were concerned professionally with human relationships. Throughout the series the subject was dealt with developmentally and the first lecture on "Childhood" was given by Dr. Mary Burbury, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Leeds. This was followed two weeks later by a lecture from Dr. J. Valentine, Medical Superintendent at Scalebor Park Hospital, Burley-in-Wharfedale, on the subject of "Adolescence." The next lecture was given by Dr. A. Torrie, Physician Superintendent, The Retreat, York, on "Marriage and the Middle Years" and Dr. J. Affleck, Regional Psychiatrist of the Leeds Regional Hospital Board concluded the series with a lecture on "Old Age."

There was a most encouraging response to this series, audiences varying between two hundred and two hundred and fifty each evening. It was quite evident that the course had stimulated a good deal of latent interest and all concerned agreed that the project had been worth while. Each of the speakers expressed appreciation that a Local Health Authority was pioneering into this new field in this way.

A similar course of lectures but with a different theme is being considered for next year.

The following is a brief summary of the case work undertaken by the Mental Health Worker during the year :—

Cases under care at beginning of year	...	...	...	22
Cases referred during year	...	...	...	17
Cases dealt with during year	...	...	...	39
Cases discharged during year	...	...	...	18
Cases at end of year	...	...	...	21

Referring Agencies.

	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>
National Assistance Board	1	6	7
Consultant Psychiatrist	4	—	4
Children's Officer	1	1	2
General Practitioner	1	—	1
Health Visitor	—	1	1
Self referred	1	—	1
After-Care (Stanley Royd Hospital)	—	1	1
	8	9	17

Classification by Diagnosis.

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Psychosis	4	2	6
Psychoneurosis	3	4	7
Amentia	—	2	2
Psychopathic personality	1	—	1
Organic	—	1	1
	8	9	17

Dewsbury General Hospital Psychiatric Out-patient Clinics :—

Sessions worked	50
New patients seen	150
Old patients seen	191

Child Guidance Centre :—

Sessions on Child Guidance Centre duties	298
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Visits and Interviews.

Visits	198
Interviews	137

OCCUPATION CENTRE.

The Centre, or Orchard Street School as the Council wish it to be known, has continued to do remarkably good work throughout the year, the staff remains the same both in numbers and in name, viz. :—Supervisor (Qualified), 4 Assistant Supervisors (Unqualified), 1 Caretaker and 1 Kitchen Helper.

The number of children on the register in December was as follows :—

	<i>Dewsbury</i>	<i>W.R.C.C.</i>
No. on register	30	21
No. on register under 16 years old ...	23	18
No. on register over 16 years old ...	7	3
No. of attendances	866	570
No. of days open	18	18
Average attendance	24	15

Transport for the children continues to be by bus for both Dewsbury and West Riding children operating under contracts.

As in previous years the mid-day meal is supplied by the Education Committee through the School Meals Service and in needy cases the meal is supplied free. Each child also receives one-third of a pint of milk daily under the Milk in Schools scheme.

The children are divided into four groups having regard to their mental capacity and age and are as follows :—

Nursery Group ...	ages approximately	4—11 years	
Junior Group ...	„ „	9—14	„
Senior Group (Mixed)	„ „	12 plus	
„ „ (Boys)	„ „	16—20	„

During the year activities and amusements have been provided including a trip to the Yorkshire Dales, a Harvest Festival, a concert given by the children and the annual Christmas Party attended by Their Worships the Mayor and Mayoress. There was also an open day in July when the School was open for inspection by the public.

The School was visited by an Inspector of the Board of Control on 17th May, 1955, who gave a most encouraging report. There has been periodic medical inspections by the staff of the Health Department.

The Parent Teacher Association has continued to flourish and it is gratifying to know that the interests of the parents continues to be as strong as ever. The Association was responsible for the financing of the trip to the Dales mentioned above.

**PREVALANCE OF, AND CONTROL
OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER
DISEASES**

The Prevalence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases.
(Other than Tuberculosis).

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Finally so Diagnosed	Cases admitted to Hospital or occurring in Hosiptal	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	32	32	11	—
Erysipelas	5	5	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	7	6	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	1	1	—
Pneumonia	32	32	4	25*
Measles	1164	1163	12	—
Whooping Cough	135	135	7	1
Typhoid and Para-typhoid	4	4	4	—
Food Poisoning	27	26	4	—
Dysentery	62	62	12	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ...	4	5	4	—
Poliomyelitis	21	18	19	—
Anthrax	1	1	1	—
	1495	1490	84	26*

*Some cases of pneumonia are not notifiable. The deaths from pneumonia are not related to the notifications.

**DETAILS OF THE NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE TWELVE MONTHS
OF THE YEAR 1954.**

The number in brackets shew the number of cases in which a change in diagnosis was made.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Scarlet Fever ...	1	2	3	1	1	4	2	1	1	5	6	5	32
Erysipelas ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	5
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	2	—	—	1	—	1 (1)	1	1	—	1	—	—	7 (1)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia ...	8	5	4	10	—	2	—	2	—	—	1	—	32
Measles ...	39	252	486	251 (1)	77	33	6	3	8	8	—	1	1164 (1)
Whooping Cough ...	5	15	8	21	2	5	10	15	24	5	24	1	135
Typhoid & Paratyphoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	4
Dysentery ...	3	3	27	3	6	9	—	2	3	1	2	3	62
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	1	—	1	6	2	14	3 (1)	—	—	—	27 (1)
Polio-myelitis ...	—	—	3 (1)	—	1	5 (1)	4	3 (1)	4	—	—	1	21 (3)
Meningitis ...	2	—	—	1 (1)	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 (+1)
Anthrax ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS ...	60	277	533 (1)	289 (+1) (-1)	88	66 (2)	30	43 (1)	43 (1)	20	35	11	1495 (-5)

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS. AGE GROUPS. FINAL DIAGNOSIS

Disease	Under 5 years	5—14	15—44	45—64	65 & over	Age not known	Totals
Scarlet Fever ...	11	19	2	—	—	—	32
Erysipelas ...	—	—	3	1	1	—	5
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	6	—	—	—	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia ...	4	—	9	7	3	9	32
Measles ...	726	416	4	—	—	17	1163
Whooping Cough ...	81	50	1	—	—	3	135
Para-typhoid ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	4
Food poisoning ...	3	4	7	—	—	12	26
Dysentery ...	5	3	5	—	7	42	62
Meningitis ...	3	1	—	1	—	—	5
Poliomyelitis ...	5	12	1	—	—	—	18
Anthrax ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
TOTALS ...	841	507	38	10	11	83	1490

Tuberculosis.

Total Number of Cases on Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1955.

	M	F.	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	127	65	192
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	38	34	72
	165	99	264

Summary in Age Groups.

Age	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
0—5	2	1	3	2	3	5
5—15	4	2	6	14	4	18
16—25	14	15	29	5	7	12
26—35	35	19	54	8	4	12
36—45	29	17	46	4	7	11
46—55	21	4	25	4	8	12
56—65	14	5	19	1	1	2
66 upwards	8	2	10	—	—	—
Totals	127	65	192	38	34	72

Tuberculosis Mortality 1955.

Age Periods	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—	1	—	1	—	—	—
45—	1	—	1	—	—	—
65—	2	—	2	—	—	—
TOTALS	4	—	4	—	—	—

Mortality from respiratory tuberculosis :—0.07 per 1,000 population.

Mortality from non-respiratory tuberculosis :—NIL per 1,000 population.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis was voluntarily notifiable in Dewsbury from 1907 and compulsorily notifiable throughout the country from 1912. The following table shows the decline in the notifications and deaths from 1912 to the present time, the year under review having the smallest death rate ever.

Tuberculosis.

Year	NOTIFICATIONS			DEATHS		
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
1912—1915 (average)	107·5	31·7	139·2	51·8	16·8	68·6
1916—1920 (average)	97·4	15·6	113	42·4	11·6	54
1921—1925 (average)	43·6	9·4	53	33·6	9·2	42·8
1926—1930 (average)	38·6	15·2	53·8	36·6	9·4	46
1931—1935 (average)	41·4	18·8	60·2	32·2	7·4	39·6
1936—1940 (average)	45	21·6	66·6	22·8	5·8	28·6
1941—1945 (average)	31·4	12·6	44	20·6	9·0	29·6
1946—1950 (average)	24·8	16	40·8	14	5	19
1936	42	23	65	24	12	36
1937	55	22	77	22	8	30
1938	51	29	80	16	6	22
1939	32	15	47	25	2	27
1940	45	19	64	27	1	28
1941	39	19	58	28	6	34
1942	31	4	35	19	15	34
1943	32	10	42	20	11	31
1944	29	11	40	16	5	21
1945	26	19	45	20	8	28
1946	20	12	32	11	5	16
1947	31	15	46	19	9	28
1948	22	18	40	13	5	18
1949	26	20	46	12	6	18
1950	25	15	40	15	—	15
1951	31	8	39	17	—	17
1952	25	9	34	12	1	13
1953	30	17	47	7	1	8
1954	8	6	14	8	1	9
1955	20	9	29	4	—	4

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis Notifications.

Year	Cervical Glands		Bones & Joints		Abdomen		Meninges		Kidneys		Others		Total M & F
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
1943	1	1	4	1		2					1		10
1944	2	2	2	2				1			1	1	11
1945	4	7	1	4		2			1				19
1946	2	2	4	3			1						12
1947	1	7	1	4		1					1		15
1948	3	4	1	2	4	2	1				1		18
1949	5	3	3	1	4	1	2	1					20
1950	1	3	2								3	6	15
1951	3	3			1				1				8
1952	1	4				1					1	2	9
1953	4	5	1			2		1	1		2	1	17
1954		1	2					1			1	1	6
1955	2	3				2			1			1	9

The numbers of new notifications of Tuberculosis in 1955 in Dewsbury was 29 ; of these, 20 were pulmonary and 9 non-pulmonary. 109 contacts were examined for the first time, 202 old contacts were re-examined and 2 contacts developed tuberculosis ; 4 persons died from the disease and 15 were removed from the register as recovered and in addition, during the year, 75 contacts were discharged after examination. The total number of patients on the register at 31st December, 1955, was 264 consisting of 192 pulmonary and 72 non-pulmonary cases ; 41 patients received treatment in a sanatorium and the number of children vaccinated under the contact scheme with B.C.G. was 38.

Reference is made earlier under the heading of "Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care" of the work which has been done to prevent the spread of Tuberculosis and the follow up of cases.

Employment of known cases of tuberculosis is difficult in this area, but certain organisations are good at taking back rehabilitated persons who have received treatment. The greatest difficulty is experienced with unskilled workers who are not fit to return to their usual jobs and light employment is almost unobtainable in this area.

A notification of death from tuberculosis of a person who has not been previously notified is treated as a new notification and the usual contact procedure is observed. Any child referred to clinic by a general practitioner or by the Health Department is mantouxed and if negative offered B.C.G. vaccination.

Venereal Disease

Treatment of this disease was carried out at the Special Treatment Centre at Dewsbury General Hospital.

The following table shows the services rendered at the Treatment Centre during the year, classified according to the area in which the patients resided.

Name of County or County Borough	Dewsbury	West Riding	Total
Number of cases from each area :—			
Syphilis	12	18	30
Gonorrhoea	5	3	8
Other conditions	81	60	141
TOTALS	98	81	179

Food Poisoning

The annual return of Food Poisoning Notifications required by the Ministry of Health for the year ended 31st December, 1955, is included below.

Appendix D (i)

Annual Return of Food Poisoning Notifications (Corrected).

1. Local Authority—Dewsbury County Borough. Year—1955.
2. Food Poisoning Notifications (Corrected) Returned to R.G.

<i>1st Quarter</i>	<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<i>4th Quarter</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	7	18	nil	26

3. Outbreaks due to identified agents—Nil.

4. Outbreaks due to undiscovered cause—Nil.

5. Single Cases :—

<i>Agent identified.</i>			<i>Unknown Cause</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Salmonella	Typhimurimum	8		
„	St. Paul	6		
„	Virchow	3	8	26
„	Group C.	1		

Cancer.

No. of Deaths from Cancer during 1955	...	...	...	97
Rate per 1,000 population, 1955	...	...	...	1.82

Deaths from Cancer in Age Periods :—

			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 25 years	...	...	—	—	—
25—44 years	...	...	1	6	7
45—64 years	...	...	18	17	35
65—74 years	...	...	26	12	38
Over 75 years	...	...	6	11	17
			51	46	97

Cancer Deaths 1950-55.

Year	Total No. of Deaths from Cancer All sites	Deaths from Cancer of the Lung		
		Total	Males	Females
1950	108	8	6	2
1951	106	12	10	2
1952	116	17	15	2
1953	104	20	16	4
1954	119	19	18	1
1955	97	11	10	1

Sanitary Inspector's Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Halifax Road,
Dewsbury.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1955.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of the
County Borough of Dewsbury.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the work of the Sanitary Inspector's Department during the year 1955.

The report follows the pattern of previous years in giving Statistical Summaries of inspections and the improvements noted under their respective headings.

As foreshadowed last year the main item has been the work done under the Housing Acts. The Slum Clearance Programme was drawn up, submitted to the Housing Committee and subsequently approved by the Council, and during the year the actual work of re-housing the tenants and demolition of the properties was well under way.

It is with pleasure that I once again take this opportunity of thanking the Chairmen and members of the Health and Housing Committees for their help throughout the year, and also my appreciation to the Medical Officer of Health for his continued support and my sincere thanks to the members of the Department's staff, Inspectors, Clerks and Workmen, for their work during the year, which is reflected in the ensuing pages of this Report.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

H. HAWORTH, M.S.I.A.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Staff.

The staff was increased during the year by the addition of another District Inspector and now comprises Chief Sanitary Inspector and six District Inspectors, one of whom is designated Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector. The remaining staff of three clerks and two van drivers/disinfectors (trained in rodent control) remained unchanged.

In addition to the Statutory qualification held by all the District Sanitary Inspectors, three hold the Certificate of the Royal Society of Health for the Inspection of Meat & Other Foods, whilst additional qualifications held include :—

Sanitary Science as Applied to Buildings and Public Works ;
 Diploma of Public Administration ;
 Smoke Inspector's Certificate ; and
 Sanitary and Domestic Engineering Certificate.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.**Clean Food Campaign.****1. Number of Food premises in the Area, by type of business :—**

Butchers	...	...	...	67
Bakers & Pastry Cooks	...	...	...	38
Confectioners	...	...	...	123
Dairies & Milk Shops	...	...	...	186
Fishmongers	...	...	...	20
Fish Fryers	...	...	...	37
Fruiterers & Greengrocers	...	...	...	35
Grocers & Provision Dealers	...	...	...	98
Health Food Stores	...	...	...	1
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	204
Snack Bars	...	...	...	6

2. Number of Food premises, by type, registered under—

(a)	Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938			
(b)	Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949 :—			
(a)	Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	4
	Shops selling wrapped ice cream	...	...	200
	Preserved Foods, &c.	...	...	38
(b)	Dairies	...	...	26

3. Number of inspections of registered food premises :—

Ice Cream	...	...	...	307
Preserved Foods, &c.	...	...	...	238
Dairies	...	...	...	398

4. Educational Activities :—

The District Sanitary Inspectors continued to stress to food traders and their employees at their places of business the importance of care and cleanliness in the exposure and handling of food. The personal approach has proved more successful in securing a higher standard of hygiene in food premises.

5. Method of disposal of condemned food :—

Condemned foods are collected and removed for disposal to the Corporation's Destructor Plant.

6. Special examination of a stock or consignment :—

No examination was called for during the year.

Adulteration.

The recognised minimum rate of sampling is three samples per 1,000 population per annum, so taking Dewsbury's population as roughly 50,000, this would equal 150 samples per year.

It has long been the practice in Dewsbury to exceed the minimum requirement, and during the year 261 samples were taken for chemical analysis, which gives an equivalent rate of 5.2 samples per 1,000 population.

93 visits were made for the purpose of taking samples under the Food & Drugs Act, 9 visits in respect of formal samples and 84 for informal samples. 261 samples were taken, 248 of which were found to be genuine and 13 adulterated, giving a percentage adulteration of 4.9%.

Number of samples taken during the past five years :—

Suggested Guide Rate	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
150	372	283	346	314	261

Taking the population as 50,000 approximately, the rate per 1,000 equals :

Suggested Guide Rate	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
3.0	7.4	5.6	6.9	6.3	5.2

The results of the analysis of samples :—

Milk :

	19 1	1952	1953	1954	1955
Number taken ...	182	148	198	123	115
Number adulterated ...	7	3	15	6	8
Percentage adulterated	3.78	2.02	7.52	4.87	6.96

Drugs :

Number taken ...	2	11	6	9	11
Number adulterated ...	0	0	0	0	0
Percentage adulterated	0	0	0	0	0

Samples of Food and Drugs sent to the Public Analyst for Examination

Article	Samples Taken	Informal Genuine Adult'd		Formal Genuine Adult'd		Total Genuine Adult'd	
Milk	115	103	8	4	—	107	8
Ice Cream	61	61	—	—	—	61	—
Other Food & Drugs—							
A.B.C. Cashews	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Aspirin (Children's)	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Back & Kidney Pills	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Beef Sausage	17	17	—	—	—	17	—
Black Pudding	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Borax & Honey... ..	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Brandy	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
Bubble Gum Balls	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Candy Buttons	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Cascaras	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Cephos Tablets	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Chewing Gum	2	2	—	—	—	2	—
Clo-ro-filt	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Dolly Mixtures	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Express Powders	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Gin	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
Jam	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Kilkoff Cones	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Koray Tablets	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Laxative Chocolate	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Lemon Crystals	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Liquorice	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Lollipop	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Meat Pie	3	3	—	—	—	3	—
Orange Drink	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Pork Sausage	24	19	5	—	—	19	5
Rice	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Rum	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
Sausage	5	5	—	—	—	5	—
Slimming Tablets	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Stand Pie	5	5	—	—	—	5	—
Steak & Kidney Pie	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Sweet Cigarettes	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Whisky	2	—	—	2	—	2	—
Totals	261	239	13	9	—	248	13

Particulars of Adulteration.

No. of Sample	Article	Adulteration or offence
517	Pork Sausage	Contained only 54.5% meat
526	Pork Sausage	Contained only 50.0% meat
535	Pork Sausage	Contained only 57.7% meat
536	Pork Sausage	Contained only 56.2% meat
543	Milk	Contained only 2.61% fat
545	Milk	Contained only 2.85% fat
552	Milk	Contained only 2.49% fat
610	Milk	Contained only 8.17% solids not fat
627	Pork Sausage	Contained only 59.2% meat
657	Milk	Contained only 8.14% solids not fat
661	Milk	Contained only 2.60% fat
667	Milk	Contained only 2.83% fat
686	Milk	Contained only 2.68% fat

Warnings were given to all the firms concerned in respect of the samples of Pork Sausage. Milk samples Nos. 543, 545, 552, 610, 657, 661, 667 and 686 were taken before heat treatment at one of the bulk processing plants from producers outside the Borough, in these cases the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures of the West Riding County Council was informed.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Meat.

All animals slaughtered for food are inspected at the seven licenced slaughterhouses in the Borough. At one of these slaughterhouses killing continued on Sundays and this necessitated week-end work by the three members of the staff holding the meat inspector's certificate.

785 visits were made to slaughterhouses and in consequence 5 tons 10 cwts. 1-lb. of meat and offal were condemned and destroyed as being diseased and unfit for food. The number of animals slaughtered was 1,348 cattle, 36 calves, 2,985 sheep and 5,453 pigs. Offals and small quantities of meat surrendered by the butchers are collected by this Department and disposed of by incineration, whilst carcasses found to be unfit for food are died green by the inspectors before being sold by the butchers to manufacturers of non-edible products.

The following tables indicate the number of carcasses and various organs found to be unfit for human food :—

Number of Carcasses Found Unfit for Human Food.

Animal	Tuber- culosis	Acci- dent	Inflamma- tory diseases	Para- sitic diseases	Other Bacterial diseases	Other Condi- tions
(i) Carcasses with all organs						
Cow	4	—	1	—	—	—
Pig	3	—	—	—	—	1
Sheep	1	—	1	—	—	—

Various Organs Found Unfit for Human Food.

	Head	Tongue	Lungs	Heart	Liver	Kidney	Spleen	Intest	Stomach	Udder	Genital Organs
Tuberculosis—											
Cows	38	41	70	4	13	5	3	6	3	5	—
Heifers & Bullocks	43	43	68	1	20	2	3	8	2	1	1
Pigs	73	50	35	17	12	2	4	11	—	—	—
Calves	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bulls	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inflammatory Diseases—											
Cows	1	1	7	4	3	2	3	2	3	4	2
Heifers & Bullocks	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
Pigs	—	—	122	99	32	1	—	—	—	—	—
Sheep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Parasitic Diseases—											
Cows	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heifers & Bullocks	—	—	—	—	21	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	8	—	77	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sheep	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases—											
Cows	—	2	—	—	22	2	—	—	—	1	—
Heifers & Bullocks	1	1	2	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pigs	3	2	4	2	4	2	1	1	1	1	—
Sheep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

No. of inspections of meat shops and meat stalls	...	923
No. of inspections of food preparers (meat)	...	211
No. of Licences to slaughter animals held at 31st Dec., 1955	...	53

Other Foods

Number of visits to other Food Premises	...	1218
„ „ Fried Fish Shops	...	274
„ „ Bakehouses	...	193
„ „ food preparers (other than meat)	...	378
Total		2063

Particulars of other food surrendered as unfit for food of man :—

TINNED FOOD—

Fruit	...	542 tins
Meat	...	218 „
Vegetables	...	643 „
Soup	...	52 „
Milk	...	202 „
Fish	...	87 „
Other Foods	...	75 „

OTHER FOODS—

Jellies	3
Fruit Pudding	1
Frozen Rabbits	530 lbs.
Cheese	912 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
Fish	178 "
Bacon	133 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Butter	84 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Brussels Sprouts	40 "
Cooked Ham	235 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
Ox Tongue	3 "
Tripe	87 "
Biscuits	24 "
Cake	7 "
Egg Albumin	8 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
Sausages	32 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
Margarine	1 "
Cheese Spread	67 pkts.
Cheese	149 "
Quaker Oats	7 "
Tea	2 "
Suet	3 "
Oats	2 "
Cheese Fingers	1 "
Cereals	25 "
Puddings	8 "
Cocoa	1 "
Jelly Crystals	3 "
Beetroot	52 jars
Preserves	8 "
Fish	6 "
Peanut Butter	2 "
Beef & Ham Paste	1 "
Red Cabbage	1 "
Orange Juice	1 bottle
Ketchup	1 "

MILK SUPPLY.

No. of Distributors	35
" Dairy Premises	16
" Inspections of Milk Shops and Dairies ...	398

The number of licences under the **Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949**, held at 31st December, 1955 were :—

Tuberculin Tested—

Dealers Licences	39
Dealers Supplementary Licences	10

The number of licences under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, held at 31st December, 1955, was :—

Pasteurised—

Dealers (Pasteurisers) Licences	2
Dealers Licences	37
Dealers Supplementary Licences	11

Sterilised—

Dealers Licences	162
Dealers Supplementary Licences	6

Chemical Analysis.

The legal requirement for milk is a minimum content of 3·0% butter fat and 8·5% solids not fat. During the year 115 samples were taken of which 8 were reported by the Public Analyst as being adulterated.

Month	Number of samples taken	Average Results.		Number adulterated
		Fat	Solids not fat	
January	11	3·93	8·82	—
March	12	3·43	8·75	3
April	7	3·61	8·64	—
May	14	3·63	8·58	—
June	12	3·75	8·65	1
July	8	3·62	8·47	—
August	15	3·53	8·53	3
October	11	3·88	8·68	1
November	25	3·89	8·80	—
Total	115	3·45	8·67	8

Percentage adulterated—6·96%

Bacteriological Analysis.

Samples of milk are submitted to the County Laboratory at Wakefield as a matter of routine for examination. 204 samples were reported as satisfactory after the prescribed test and 7 unsatisfactory.

The following table shows the type of examination carried out and the results ; appropriate action was taken where unsatisfactory results were obtained.

Designation	Type of Test							
	Methylene Blue		Phosph- atase		Turbidity		Biological B. Tuber- culosis	
	S.	N.S.	S.	N.S.	S.	N.S.	S.	N.S.
Ordinary	7	3	—	—	—	—	12	—
Sterilised	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested	27	3	—	—	—	—	20	1
Pasteurised... ..	35	—	35	—	—	—	—	—
T.T. (Pasteurised)	33	—	33	—	—	—	—	—
Total	102	6	68	—	2	—	32	1

ICE CREAM.

Sampling continued during the year and 307 visits were made to premises selling or making ice cream. Samples were sent for both chemical and bacteriological examination.

Chemical Analysis.

None of the 61 samples taken during the year fell below 5.0% fat, the present standard, whilst some reached as high as 15.6% which is a good indication of the quality of ice cream offered for sale in the Borough.

The results of analysis of samples taken during the past five years by this Department are shown in the following tables.

Fat Content	1951		1952		1953		1954		1955	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0.0% to 0.9%	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1.0% to 1.9%	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.0% to 2.9%	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.0% to 3.9%	3	4.5	2	5.6	4	6.9	—	—	—	—
4.0% to 4.9%	2	3.0	1	2.8	3	5.2	2	4.3	—	—
5.0% and over	60	92.5	33	91.6	51	87.9	45	95.7	61	100
Total number of samples taken	65		36		58		47		61	

The Public Analyst reported on the samples taken during 1955 as follows :—

Month			No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
May	...	...	8	8	—
June	...	...	21	21	—
July	...	...	13	13	—
August	...	...	5	5	—
September	...	...	9	9	—
October	...	...	3	3	—
November	...	...	2	2	—
Total			61	61	—

Bacteriological Analysis.

There are 4 producers of ice cream with manufacturing premises within the Borough. Production is controlled by the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-1951.

The grades given to samples of ice cream are based on the time taken to reduce Methylene Blue in the laboratory and are as follows :—

Time taken to reduce Methylene Blue.

Grade 1	...	...	4½ hours or more
" 2	...	...	2½ to 4 hours
" 3	...	...	½ to 2 hours
" 4	...	...	0

Judgment of bacteriological cleanliness is based on a series of samples—too much attention to any one given sample is useless for technical reasons. It has been suggested that over a six monthly period 50% of a vendor's samples should be Grade 1, 80% in Grades 1 and 2, not more than 20% in Grade 3 and none in Grade 4.

The Graded results of the samples with differentiation for ice cream manufactured in the Borough and outside, are as follows:—

Manufactured in Dewsbury—

Number of Premises 4.	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Methylene Blue Test ...	14	8	8	11

Manufactured outside Dewsbury—

Number of Premises 8.				
Methylene Blue Test ...	20	3	6	1
Number of Samples— 71	34	11	14	12

Table showing a monthly analysis of ice cream samples :—

Month				No. of Samples	Meth. Blue Test	
					Passed	Failed
May	...	...	...	8	5	3
June	...	...	...	21	18	3
July	...	...	...	13	1	12
August	...	...	...	13	5	8
September	...	...	...	9	1	8
October	...	...	...	3	3	—
November	...	...	...	4	1	3
Total				71	34	37

GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION.

Analysis of Inspections.

The table which follows indicates the varied nature of the visits made by the Sanitary Inspector under the heading of general sanitary administration.

Nature of Inspection.	Primary Insp'ns	Re- Inspections	Total Visits
Housing Conditions :			
Dwellinghouse inspections—			
Under Public Health Acts ...	719	2551	3270
„ Housing Acts... ..	1063	2501	3564
„ Housing Acts (overcrowding) ...	858	43	901
„ Housing Acts (classification) ...	124	22	146
„ Housing Acts (clearance areas) ...	97	58	105
„ Housing Acts (Individual Unfit) ...	30	90	120
Re Accumulations	83	61	144
Re Cellars Flooding	69	228	297
Re Water Supply	53	56	109
Re Yards, Courts, &c.	43	41	84
Inspections for the M.O.H.	152	—	152

Nature of Inspection.	Primary Insp'ds	Re- Inspections	Total Visits
Visits to :			
Schools	54	8	62
Entertainment Places...	79	14	93
Piggeries	64	5	69
Public Conveniences ...	249	2	251
Street Gullies and Sewers	128	56	184
Markets	2094	—	2094
Stable Premises	12	—	12
Animals and Birds	52	4	56
Tents, Vans and Sheds ...	61	16	77
Refuse Tips	42	9	51
Pet Shops	170	1	171
Common-lodging-houses ...	1	1	2
Offensive Trades	11	—	11
Miscellaneous	1326	—	1326
Interviews (Owners, etc.) ...	1094	—	1094
Visits for Water Sampling ...	16	—	16

Complaints.

Number and nature of complaints received and investigated :—

Dampness	16
Vermin—Rats and Mice	109
Insect Pests	23
Refuse Accommodation	20
Sanitary Accommodation :	
Water Closets	57
Cisterns	45
Water Closet drains	12
Overcrowding	2
Water Supply :	
Defective pipes	3
Miscellaneous	9
Washing Accommodation :	
Sinks	11
Sink Waste Pipes	11
Set Pots	—
Drainage	75
Water in Cellar	20
Miscellaneous	57
General :	
Fireplaces	5
Roofs	31
Chimneys	6
Plasterwork	9
Eavesgutters	—
Windows	3
Total	524

Nuisances.

Nuisances found	1248
Nuisances remedied	1036

Action under Public Health Act, 1936.

Notices Served.		Notices Complied With.	
Formal.	Informal.	Formal.	Informal.
17	470	20	456

Action under Dewsbury Corporation Act, 1933 (S.20)

Notices Served.	Notices Complied With
99	110

Housing Statistics.

1.—Inspections of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—				
(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	2157	
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	7743	
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	Nil.	
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil.	
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation			7
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation			854
2.—Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of formal Notices :—				
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers			569
3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—				
(a)	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :			
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs			17
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices			9
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :			
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs			32
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—			
	(a)	By owners	27	
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil.	
(c)	Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :			
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made			Nil.
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders			Nil.
(3)	Number of Dwelling-houses for which undertakings were submitted and accepted by Council			7
(4)	Number of Dwelling-houses made fit on undertakings accepted by Council... ..			Nil.
(d)	Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :			
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit			Nil.
4.—Housing Act, 1936.—Overcrowding :—				
(a)	(1)	Number of dwellings-houses overcrowded at the end of the year	76	
	(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	76	
	(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	384	
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding			2
(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year... ..	43	
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	213	
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding			Nil
(e)	Temporary overcrowding Licences granted			Nil

RODENT CONTROL.

Rats and Mice.

The organisation and methods used are those recommended and approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Two part-time rodent operators are employed. In addition the Borough Engineer supplied the labour for the treatment of sewers.

During the year 258 inspections, with 633 re-inspections were made of infested premises and the necessary steps taken to clear the premises.

Good progress was made in this work, owners and occupiers of premises willingly reporting suspected infestations. The treatment of private dwelling houses is made free of charge, a charge is made for treating business premises.

One comprehensive treatment was given to the Corporation sewers known to be rat infested to any degree. 10% of the manholes in the remaining sewers were also tested.

The Corporation tips were regularly surveyed and treated as necessary.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The average monthly deposit of soot per square mile showed a reduction of nearly two tons.

The new site for the soot deposit gauge in the Savile Town area proved satisfactory and the Ravensthorpe gauge was finally re-sited in the grounds of the sewage works.

Throughout the year 354 observations were made on industrial chimneys and 29 visits to boiler plants were necessary, but no notices concerning contravention of the bye-laws were served. Contact with engineers has been maintained in an effort to minimise the emission of excessive smoke.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION 1955.

Estimation of sulphur by lead peroxide method.

OBSERVATIONS AT SAVILE TOWN.

				Mg. of SO ₃ /day collected by 100 sq. cm. of Batch A PbO ₂ (louvered cover)
January	...	...	...	2.51
February	...	...	...	1.94
March	...	...	...	1.53
April	...	...	...	1.26
May	...	...	...	1.31
June	...	...	...	0.93
July	...	...	...	0.96
August	...	...	...	0.77
September	...	...	...	1.02
October	...	...	...	1.96
November	...	...	...	2.80
December	...	...	...	2.91
Average for the year	...	...	...	1.66

Meteorological Report, 1955.

OBSERVATIONS AT CROW NEST PARK.

				Rainfall inches	Sunshine	
					Hours	Minutes
January	...	...	...	1.65	28	0
February	...	...	...	2.42	67	25
March	...	...	...	2.03	111	10
April	...	...	...	0.67	138	45
May	...	...	...	2.68	148	30
June	...	...	...	1.61	119	5
July	...	...	...	0.59	231	5
August	...	...	...	0.64	154	20
September	...	...	...	1.48	143	50
October	...	...	...	1.63	102	0
November	...	...	...	1.52	40	15
December	...	...	...	3.29	54	10
				<hr/> 20.21	<hr/> 1338	<hr/> 35

Atmospheric Pollution

Record of Observation with Deposit Gauges for the Year 1955.

Month	Gauge Situate at Ravensthorpe		Gauge Situate at Whitley		Gauge Situate at Savile Town (Gas Works)		Gauge Situate at Dewsbury (Municipal Buildings)	
	M.	E.	M.	E.	M.	E.	M.	E.
January	...	*	550	14.02	861	21.94	735	18.75
February	...	42.10	234	5.96	648	16.53	606	15.46
March	...	51.49	442	11.25	721	18.37	1020	26.02
April	...	28.73	340	8.66	833	21.21	581	14.80
May	...	28.96	515	13.13	1003	25.55	683	17.41
June	...	12.11	432	11.02	800	20.40	1047	26.51
July	...	19.85	380	9.69	773	19.71	567	14.45
August	...	17.87	338	8.62	626	15.95	449	11.45
September	...	29.63	365	9.29	1015	25.88	506	12.89
October	...	32.52	533	13.58	576	14.67	937	23.87
November	...	43.46	463	11.80	683	17.39	628	16.01
December	...	43.81	645	16.44	1406	35.84	665	16.93
Total Deposit	13,781	350.53	5,237	133.46	9,945	253.44	8,424	214.55
Average per month	1252	31.86	436	11.12	828	21.12	702	17.87
Average per month for all gauges 20.49 tons of soot deposited per square mile.								

M.—Metric tons of soot deposited per 100 sq. kilometres.

E.—English tons of soot deposited per sq. mile.

*—Bottle broken due to Frost

Rag Flock.

Under the Rag Flock & Other Filling Materials Act, 1951, 4 licences relating to premises manufacturing or storing rag flock were renewed and 2 upholstery premises registered. A total of 25 visits was made to these premises during the year.

12 formal samples were taken and submitted for analysis, 11 were reported genuine and 1 did not meet the requirements of the Regulations.

One formal sample of feathers was taken and submitted for analysis and was reported genuine.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

5 formal samples of fertilisers and 6 informal samples of feeding stuffs were taken during the period.

Pharmacy and Poisons.

68 visits were made to premises which were registered as Listed Sellers under Part II of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act. There were no contraventions of the Act.

Vermin.

163 visits were made to verminous premises and 40 visits to premises found to be dirty.

The most up-to-date insecticides are used by the Department to give an efficient service to the public. Householders and owners are now aware of this service and quite frequently avail themselves of this useful service.

In all, twelve houses with a total of 19 rooms have been treated. In addition 23, 649 articles of bedding and clothing and furniture, etc., were disinfested.

The service to local manufacturers requiring disinfection certificates for goods treated before exportation has been continued.

Infectious Diseases.

No. of visits to investigate cases of infectious disease	122
No. of visits to investigate cases of food poisoning	17
No. of visits re infectious disease contacts	—
No. of houses disinfested after cases of infectious disease	91
No. of rooms " " " " "	156
No. of articles " " " " "	67,566
No. of library books " " " "	26

In all cases the bedding is collected by the staff of the Department, and steam disinfested.

Refuse Accommodation.

761 inspections were made and 141 dustbins renewed or provided.

Factories Act, 1937.

No. of inspections (Mechanical Power)	281
No. of re-inspections (Mechanical Power)	60
No. of inspections (No Mechanical Power)	50
No. of re-inspections (No Mechanical Power)	6
No. of inspections (Outworkers)	37

**Inspections of Factories by Sanitary Inspectors for Purposes of
Provisions as to Health.**

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be en- forced by Local Authorities	73	56	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which section 7 applies :				
(a) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order, 1938	298	341	17	—
(b) Others	—	—	—	—
Total	371	397	19	—

Cases in which DEFECTS were found :

Particulars	No. of cases defects found				No. of Prose- cutions
	Found	Reme- died	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable tempera- ture	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(a) Insufficient ...	13	24	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or de- fective ...	46	27	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not relating to Outworkers) ...	8	12	—	—	—
Total	58	64	—	1	—

Number of outworkers ... 40

Sanitary Accommodation.

Inspections :

W.C. accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	...	876
Privies, pails, troughs and W.W.C's.	...	...	...	...	...	...	47

Drainage.

Plans of all proposed drainage work are submitted for the consideration of this Department before their approval.

The Department's staff is responsible for the supervision and testing of all new drainage work, including new drains and alterations to existing ones, by the use of either smoke, colour or chemicals.

Drain Tests :

Total Length of drains tested by smoke—

4 ins. drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,235 feet
6 ins. drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,758 feet
9 ins. drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	... 14 feet

No. of drains tested and inspected—

Inspections of drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	682
Smoke tests—new drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	205
Smoke tests—existing drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	123
Colour tests	...	...	...	...	...	...	197
Other tests	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drains reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
Chemical tests	...	...	...	...	...	...	19

Shops Acts.

No. of Inspections of Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	929
„ Re-Inspections of Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
„ Shops entered on Register (31st Dec., 1955)	...	...	...	...	...	...	648

Merchandise Marks Acts.

1,364 visits were made by the Sanitary Inspectors for the purposes of the Acts, minor contraventions were put right by informal action.